SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
MYSTERY IN SPACE
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
12¢
MAR.
NO. 74
A DOUBLE-LENGTH ADAM STRANGE THRILLER...
"The Spaceman Who Fought Himself!"
EACH OF THEM CLAIMS TO BE THE REAL ADAM STRANGE-- AND THEY INSIST ON FIGHTING A DUEL TO SETTLE THE ISSUE!

"Add 3 INCHES of steel-like Muscles to Your ARMS

4 Power-packed inches to your chest...FAST"

...IN JUST 30 DAYS!

LET ME SLAP 5 TO 50 POUNDS OF DYNAMIC, VIRILE MUSCLES ON YOUR BODY . . . turn you into a rugged HE-MAN . . . load your body with jet-charged power, thick Herculean arms . . . deep massive chest . . . atomic-powered legs . . . shoulders a "yard-wide" . . . with power oozing from every pore of your new power-packed body . . . FAST . . . and right in the the privacy of your own home!

BOB BURKE . . . MR. UNIVERSE WINNER proudly flexes the mighty 18-inch arm I built for him . . . arms that can tear telephone books in half, rip chains apart, break spikes and lift 450 pounds. Yes, Bob once had 11-inch arms before taking my course. Wouldn't you like to own a Herculean arm like this? Well, what are you waiting for . . . rush in this FREE COUPON . . . NOW!

ALL I NEED is 15 MINUTES

to prove that you can have that *rugged, virile, he-man body*, loaded with action, will-power and the dynamic personality you've always wanted.

In half the time with twice the ease, in the privacy of your own room, in just a few minutes daily I will — through my TRIPLE-PROGRESSION COURSE — slap inches of steel-like muscles on your pipestem arms . . . pack your chest with power and size . . . give you lifeguard shoulders . . . dynamic, speedy, athletic legs . . . add jet-charged strength to every muscle of your body. I don't care if you're short or tall . . . skinny or fat . . . office-worker, laborer, student or business man. I MUST make a new virile he-man out of you and help you build tremendous "inner strength" that will give you that virile look that men envy and women admire. What I did for ROB BURKE, ANDRE LEPINE and other *Mr. America* and *Mr. Universe* winners and thousands of former weaklings, *I can do for you!* Yes, I can turn you into a real HE-MAN!

HERE'S LIVING PROOF!
Andre Lepine gains 80 pounds!

BEFORE

AFTER

BEFORE mailing the coupon . . . 100 pounds of skin and bones! What a rundown wreck! He had 10-inch pipestem arms . . . a flat 34-inch chest. Truly a pathetic case of weakness before he mailed me this coupon! AFTER Weider Training! What a *Change!* What a *Build!* 180 pounds . . . a mountain of mighty muscles with Herculean 17-inch arms . . . magnificent 48-inch chest and shoulders a yard wide. Another dream come true!

ABSOLUTELY FREE

THIS GIANT 48-PAGE MUSCLE-BUILDING COURSE revealing to you all the SECRETS OF THE CHAMPIONS . . . the Mr. Universe and Mr. America winners!

Let ME prove to you at my own expense that everything I say can be done!

It's YOURS FREE! No Obligation!

FREE MUSCLE BUILDING TRIAL OFFER!

Fill out coupon and mail to me. I'll rush you my GIANT 48-page course filled with exercises, training secrets, heroic photos of the mighty champions and private advice on how you can become a muscle star FAST! A-C-T-I-O-N is the *key to strength*. Make your first he-man decision today. Rush in this coupon for your free trial course. You have nothing to lose *but your weakness!*

THE $10,000 CHALLENGE only JOE WEIDER dares to make!

I guarantee to show you how to add twice as much muscle . . . triple your power . . . gain more weight twice as fast through my system of training than you could through *any* other method . . . and in HALF THE TIME! I challenge any other physical instructor in the world who teaches through the mails to accept my challenge!

JOE WEIDER

AMAZING FREE TRIAL OFFER!

JOE WEIDER, *Trainer Of The Champions*
801 Palisade Avenue **Dept. 80-32T**
Union City, New Jersey

Shoot the works, Joe! Rush me my FREE Introductory *Power-Packed Muscle-Building Course.* √ Check which gains you want to make.

I want ☐ Bigger arms. ☐ Larger neck. ☐ Deeper chest. ☐ Trimmer waist. ☐ Athletic legs. ☐ Added weight. ☐ Broader shoulders. ☐ More endurance and power.

I enclose only **25¢** to cover the cost of handling and mailing. I am under no further obligation.

NAME _____ AGE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

(Please print plainly)

In Canada: Write Joe Weider, 2675 Bates Road, Montreal, Que., Canada

Don't miss this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! →

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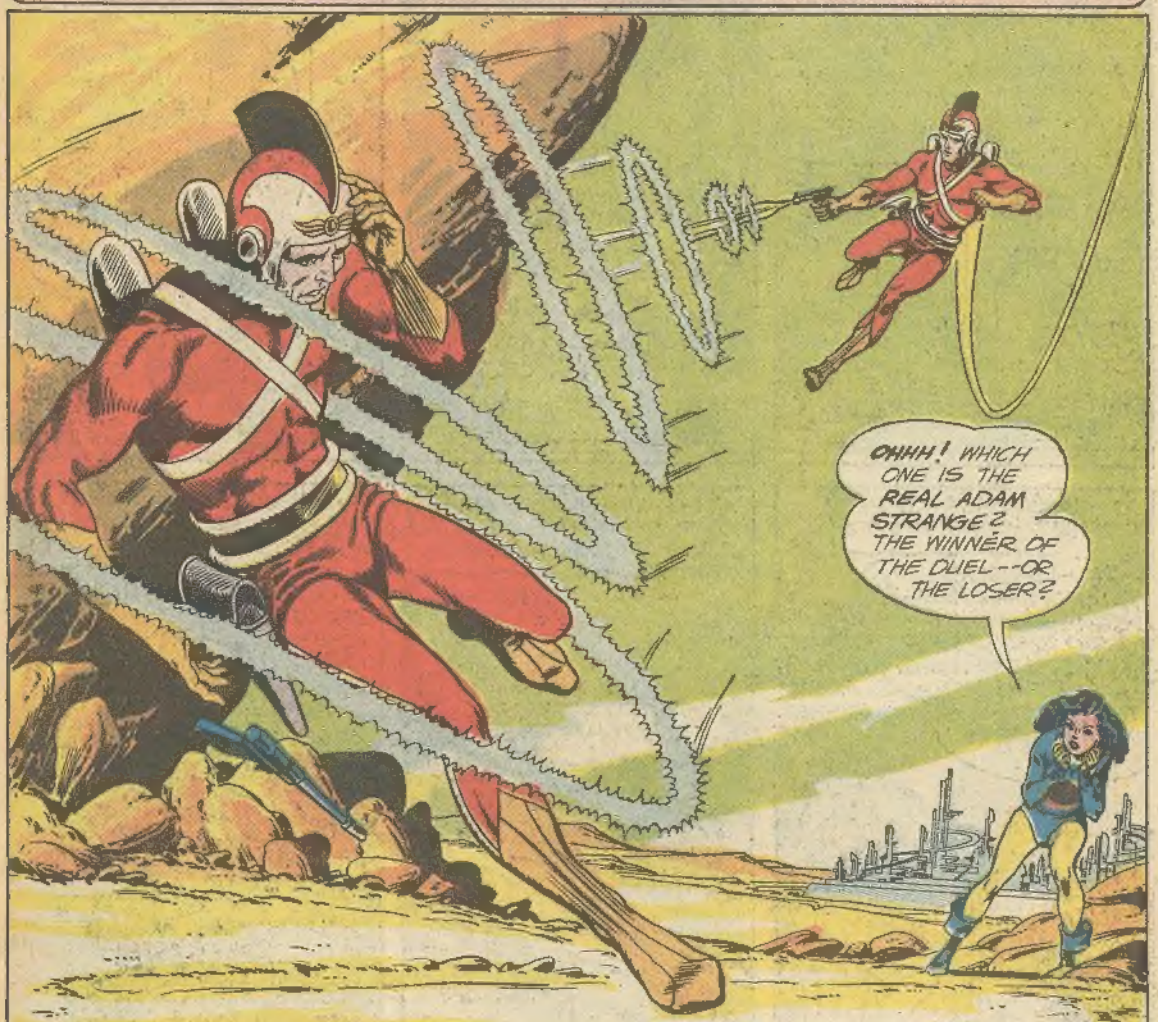
ADAM STRANGE

ADAM STRANGE--THAT TRAVELER FROM EARTH TO THE PLANET RANN OF THE STAR-SUN ALPHA CENTAURI BY MEANS OF A TELEPORTATIONAL ZETA-BEAM--IS CALLED UPON TO FACE THE ODDEST BATTLE OF HIS LIFE! HE MUST FIGHT A DUEL--TO PROVE HIS OWN IDENTITY! YET IF HE WINS THIS DUEL--HE WILL UNWITTINGLY AID AN ALIEN RACE TO CONQUER HIS ADOPTED PLANET!

The SPACEMAN WHO FOUGHT HIMSELF!



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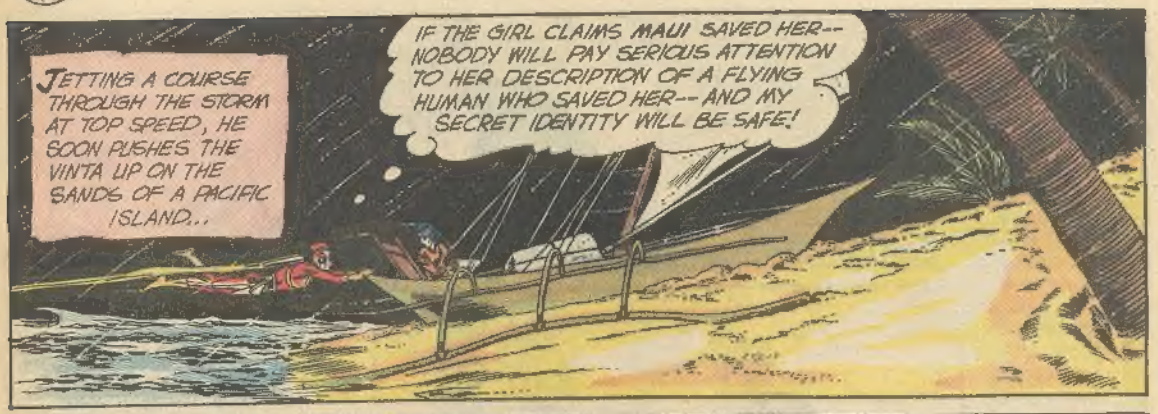
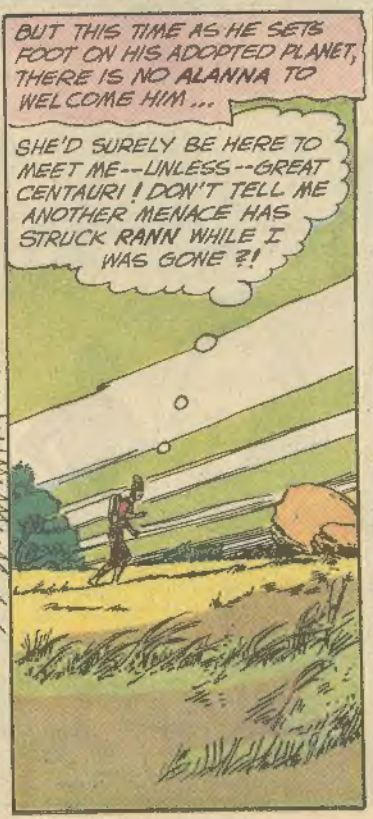
Printed in U.S.A.

ON THE PLANET RANN, ALANNA OF RANAGAR IS SETTING OUT TO MEET HER INTERPLANETARY SWEETHEART, ADAM STRANGE OF EARTH...
ADAM ISN'T DUE TO ARRIVE ON RANN FOR ANOTHER HOUR, BUT I MUSTN'T BE LATE WHEN HE GETS HERE! I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO TELL HIM ABOUT THE CELEBRATION IN HIS HONOR!
AS SHE STEPS FROM HER HOUSE TO THE STREET, SHE IS STARTLED TO SEE...
WHY--IT'S ADAM! BUT THE ZETA-BEAM ISN'T DUE TO STRIKE FOR CLOSE TO AN HOUR!
ADAM, DARLING! WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN RANAGAR--SO EARLY--AND IN THAT STRANGE OUTFIT? HOW DID YOU GET HERE? IS IT POSSIBLE YOU HAVE FOUND A WAY TO TRAVEL WITHOUT THE ZETA-BEAM?
KATAR FRANDO MADIS? ADRO PANOLAR?
DOUBT TOUCHES THE TENSE FEATURES OF THE PRETTY GIRL...
SPEAKING AN ALIEN LANGUAGE--?! ADAM--WHAT'S HAPPENED TO YOU? YOU'D BETTER COME ALONG WITH ME--SO I CAN USE THE MENTICIZER* ON YOU!
CANDUL GAMARO FRON JASTER ADAM?
*Editor's Note: A REMARKABLE DEVICE WHICH ENABLES ONE TO LEARN THE RANN LANGUAGE IN A MATTER OF MOMENTS!
AT THIS VERY MOMENT ON EARTH, ADAM STRANGE IS BATTLING A PATH THROUGH A PACIFIC TYPHOON...
AN OUTRIGGER VINTA--CAUGHT BY THE STORM! IT'LL CAPSIZE AT ANY SECOND! IF I TRY TO SAVE IT--I MAY BE TOO LATE TO CONTACT THE ZETA-BEAM!
SWOOPING LOW ACROSS THE TUMBLING WAVES, HE JETS FOR THE TINY CRAFT...
I DON'T HAVE ANY CHOICE! THE SAVING OF A HUMAN LIFE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN GOING TO RANN!
IT MUST BE GREAT MAUI* COME TO SAVE ME!
*Editor's Note: THE LEGENDARY FOLK HERO OF THE POLYNESIAN PEOPLE!


JETTING A COURSE THROUGH THE STORM AT TOP SPEED, HE SOON PUSHES THE VINTA UP ON THE SANDS OF A PACIFIC ISLAND...
IF THE GIRL CLAIMS MAUI SAVED HER--NOBODY WILL PAY SERIOUS ATTENTION TO HER DESCRIPTION OF A FLYING HUMAN WHO SAVED HER--AND MY SECRET IDENTITY WILL BE SAFE!

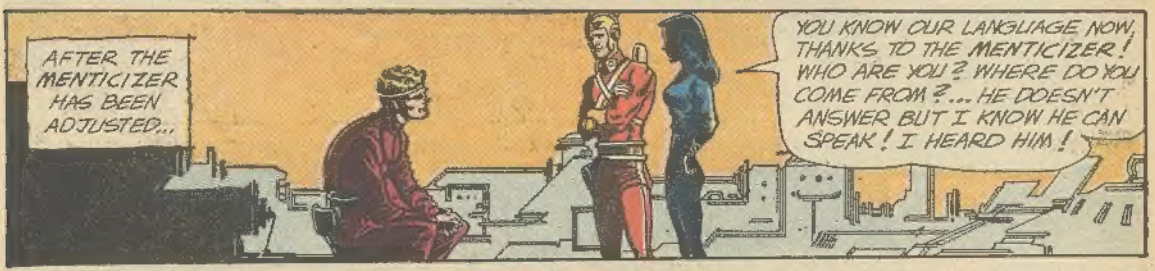
TURNING, HE HURTLES AT FULL SPEED THROUGH THE MIGHTY TYPHOON...
MAYBE IF I GO FAST ENOUGH--I CAN STILL KEEP MY RENDEZVOUS WITH THE ZETA-BEAM!

AND THEN, AS HE HAS SO OFTEN IN THE PAST, THE YOUNG EARTH ARCHEOLOGIST MAKES CONTACT WITH THE TELEPORTATIONAL BEAM FROM THE PLANET RANN--TO BE HURLED ACROSS 25 TRILLION MILES OF SPACE TO THE THIRD PLANET OF THE STAR-SUN ALPHA CENTAURI--WHERE LIVES HIS SWEETHEART ALANNA OF THE CITY OF RANAGAR...


BUT THIS TIME AS HE SETS FOOT ON HIS ADOPTED PLANET, THERE IS NO ALANNA TO WELCOME HIM...
SHE'D SURELY BE HERE TO MEET ME--UNLESS--GREAT CENTAURI! DON'T TELL ME ANOTHER MENACE HAS STRUCK RANN WHILE I WAS GONE?!

SOMEWHAT LATER, AS ALANNA IS FITTING THE MENTICIZER ABOUT THE HEAD OF THE MAN SHE BELIEVES TO BE ADAM STRANGE...
WHILE YOU WEAR THIS YOU NOT ONLY CAN LEARN OUR LANGUAGE BUT--ADAM! OH MY GOODNESS! ARE THERE TWO OF YOU?
ALANNA! WHO IS HE?

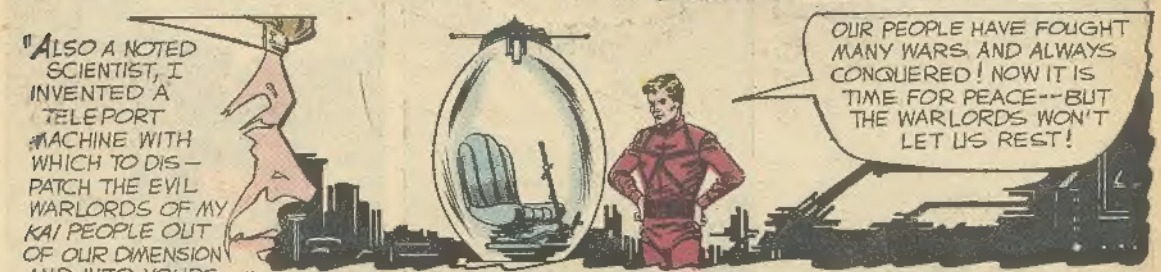
CAUGHT UP IN THE POWERFUL ARMS OF THE TRUE ADAM STRANGE, ALANNA LOSES ALL HER DOUBTS...
OHHH! WELL, YOU'RE ADAM, ALL RIGHT! BUT WHO'S THIS "OTHER ADAM"?
THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO KNOW!


AFTER THE MENTICIZER HAS BEEN ADJUSTED...
YOU KNOW OUR LANGUAGE NOW, THANKS TO THE MENTICIZER! WHO ARE YOU? WHERE DO YOU COME FROM?... HE DOESN'T ANSWER BUT I KNOW HE CAN SPEAK! I HEARD HIM!

THESE IMPROVED MENTICIZERS WILL ENABLE US TO COMMUNICATE TELEPATHICALLY WITH HIM! THE OLD-STYLE MENTICIZERS, ONE OF WHICH I PLACED ON YOU WHEN YOU FIRST LANDED ON RANN,* WOULD NOT! LET'S TRY THEM!

SUDDENLY THE FALSE "ADAM STRANGE" BEGINS TO TELEPATH HIS THOUGHTS...
I WAS HOPING YOU'D SUGGEST THAT! MY NAME IS HORTAN VAR! IN MY WORLD--IN ANOTHER DIMENSION--I'M AS GREAT A HERO AS YOU ARE ON RANN, ADAM STRANGE!

*Editor's Note: SEE SHOWCASE #17: Secret of the Eternal City!"

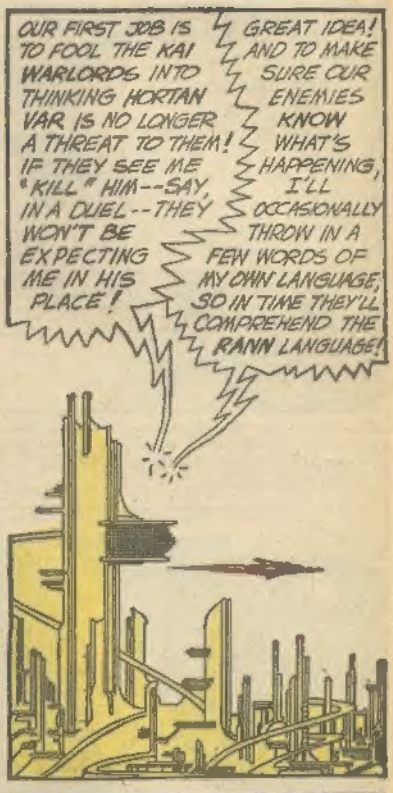

"ALSO A NOTED SCIENTIST, I INVENTED A TELEPORT MACHINE WITH WHICH TO DISPATCH THE EVIL WARLORDS OF MY KAI PEOPLE OUT OF OUR DIMENSION AND INTO YOURS..."
OUR PEOPLE HAVE FOUGHT MANY WARS AND ALWAYS CONQUERED! NOW IT IS TIME FOR PEACE--BUT THE WARLORDS WON'T LET US REST!

"EXPOSED BY A SPY, I WAS SENTENCED BY THE TRIBUNAL OF WARLORDS TO MY DOOM..."
EVER SINCE OUR SCIENTISTS SHOT A MISSILE INTO OUR SUN TO MAKE US ALL IMMORTAL--NONE OF US CAN DIE! THEREFORE, HORTAN VAR, WE SENTENCE YOU TO TRAVEL INTO ANOTHER DIMENSION--WHERE YOU SHALL REMAIN IN EXILE!

"HOWEVER, BEFORE I WAS PLACED IN THE GLASS CAPSULE WHICH BROUGHT ME HERE--I WAS BATHED BY A MU RADIATION WHICH TURNED ME INTO A LIVING TELE-VISION STATION..."
THE MU RADIATION WILL LET US SEE AND HEAR WHAT HAPPENS TO YOU IN THE OTHER DIMENSION!
"THEN THE GLASS CAPSULE WAS ACTIVATED AND I WAS TELE-PORTED FROM MY OWN WORLD TO YOURS IN THE WINK OF AN EYELID..."
"AFTER FREEING MYSELF FROM THE CAPSULE, I BEGAN WALK-ING AIMLESSLY TILL I REACHED THIS CITY OF RANAGER..."
SINCE MY PEOPLE CAN SEE WHAT WE DO OR HEAR WHAT WE SAY--ONLY OUR THOUGHTS ARE SECRET FROM THEM! I AM AFRAID--NOW THAT THEY HAVE LEARNED OF THE EXISTENCE OF YOUR WORLD OF RANN--THEY'LL TRY TO CONQUER IT!
I COULD GO BACK TO MY WORLD TO FIGHT THE WARLORDS--BUT THEY'D SEE ME COMING AND WOULD ONLY TELEPORT ME TO ANOTHER PART OF YOUR DIMENSIONAL UNIVERSE--WHERE I WOULD DIE SINCE I WOULD NO LONGER BE AFFECTED BY OUR IMMORTALIZING SUN!
WAIT! I'M GETTING AN IDEA!

I LOOK ENOUGH LIKE YOU TO BE YOUR TWIN! SUPPOSE I WERE TO GO TO YOUR KAI WORLD INSTEAD OF YOU? TO FIGHT YOUR BATTLE AGAINST THOSE WARLORDS?
IF ONLY YOU COULD, I'M SURE YOU'D WIN!

BUT BEFORE I DO, HORTAN VAR--YOU HAVE TO DIE!
ADAM! HOW CAN YOU EVEN SAY--I MEAN THINK SUCH A THING!

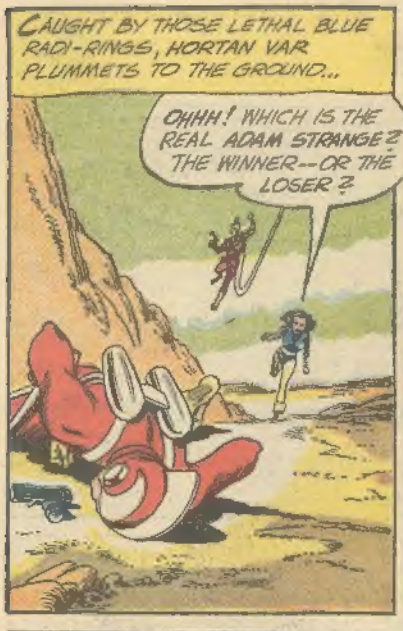

OUR FIRST JOB IS TO FOOL THE KAI WARLORDS INTO THINKING HORTAN VAR IS NO LONGER A THREAT TO THEM! IF THEY SEE ME "KILL" HIM--SAY, IN A DUEL--THEY WON'T BE EXPECTING ME IN HIS PLACE!
GREAT IDEA! AND TO MAKE SURE OUR ENEMIES KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING, I'LL OCCASIONALLY THROW IN A FEW WORDS OF MY OWN LANGUAGE, SO IN TIME THEY'LL COMPREHEND THE RANN LANGUAGE!

SOON AFTER, IN ORDER TO DECEIVE THE KAI WARLORDS, ADAM AND HORTAN VAR ENGAGE IN A LITTLE BIT OF PLAY-ACTING..
NOW THAT THE TWO OF US ARE ALONE--I'LL CONFESS MY SCHEME, ADAM STRANGE! I'VE LOST MY OWN WORLD--SO I MEAN TO TAKE YOUR PLACE HERE!
YOU SCOUNDREL!

ALANNA GAVE ME THIS UNIFORM BECAUSE SHE KNOWS I'M THE REAL ADAM STRANGE!
YOU'RE A WEAK IMITATION OF THE REAL THING AND I'LL PROVE IT!
STOP, BOTH OF YOU! THIS IS DREADFUL!

STILL ACTING, STILL PRETENDING, SO AS TO FOOL THE WATCHING, LISTENING, KAI WARLORDS...
THE CELEBRATION IN ADAM STRANGE'S HONOR TONIGHT CAN'T HAVE TWO HONORED GUESTS! ¦SIGH¦ THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO! IT'S OUR CUSTOM WHEN ANY DISPUTE ARISES TO--DUEL TO THE DEATH OVER IT!
THAT SUITS ME FINE!

AND SO, SHORTLY ON THE GREAT PLAIN OF RANAGAR..
EACH OF THEM CLAIMS TO BE THE REAL ADAM STRANGE--AND THEY INSIST ON FIGHTING A DUEL TO SETTLE THE ISSUE!
THE INSTANT ALANNA DROPS HER HANDKERCHIEF...
ALANNA ONLY SPOKE THOSE WORDS TO CONVINCE THE KAI WARLORDS THIS DUEL WAS ON THE UP AND UP!
AFTER ADAM TRIGGERS HIS POWERFUL RAY-GUN AT HIS DOUBLE IN A BURST OF DEADLY NEUTRA-BEAMS--HE DODGES A RETURN BLAST OF EXPLOSI-RAYS...
TO AVOID THE ACCURATE RAY-FIRE OF THE TRUE ADAM STRANGE, HORTAN VAR DIVES INTO A ROCK TUNNEL...
HIDING WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD!
AND WHEN THE FALSE ADAM EMERGES ON THE OTHER SIDE...
YOU FORGOT THAT--I KNOW THE PLANET RANN LIKE A BOOK!
OHHH!


CAUGHT BY THOSE LETHAL BLUE RADI-RINGS, HORTAN VAR PLUMMETS TO THE GROUND...
OHHH! WHICH IS THE REAL ADAM STRANGE? THE WINNER--OR THE LOSER?

HORTAN VAR IS "DEAD" ADAM!
THOSE MU RADIATIONS WHICH ENABLED THE KAI WARLORDS TO SEE AND HEAR EVERYTHING WE DID HAVE "DIED" WITH HIM! NOW WE CAN GO AHEAD WITH OUR PLAN, WITHOUT THE WARLORDS "TUNING" IN ON US!

SOON AFTER, IN A SMALL RANAGARIAN LABORATORY, ADAM STRANGE STEPS INTO THE DIMENSI-PORTER INVENTED BY HORTAN VAR AND MANIPULATES ITS CONTROLS...
GOOD LUCK, DARLING--GOOD LUCK!

IN THE NEXT INSTANT, AS ADAM PRESSES DOWN THE ACTIVATING LEVER HE FINDS HIMSELF TRANSPORTED THROUGH SPACE TO...
WHY, THIS CAN'T BE THE KAI WORLD! THIS IS A DEAD PLANET! BARREN! LIFELESS!
STORY CONTINUES ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING

12¢
JUSTICE LEAGUE of AMERICA
featuring THE WORLD'S GREATEST SUPER-HEROES IN "The Fantastic Powers of Felix Faust!"
NOW THAT I HAVE THE ENTIRE JUSTICE LEAGUE AT MY FINGERTIPS, NOTHING CAN STOP ME FROM CASTING MY EVIL SPELLS OVER THE EARTH!
ON SALE JAN. 30TH

For The VERY BEST
SUPERMAN
DC
NATIONAL COMICS
in COMICS READING

12¢
STRANGE ADVENTURES
featuring
WHEN I BRING THE 12 GOONTOSAURUS RAX TO LIFE, WE SHALL BOTH RULE THE EARTH AS WE DID 150 MILLION YEARS AGO!
ON SALE JAN. 25TH

"INNOCENT!"

JUDGED THE COURT OF GREEN LANTERNS of THE UNIVERSE!

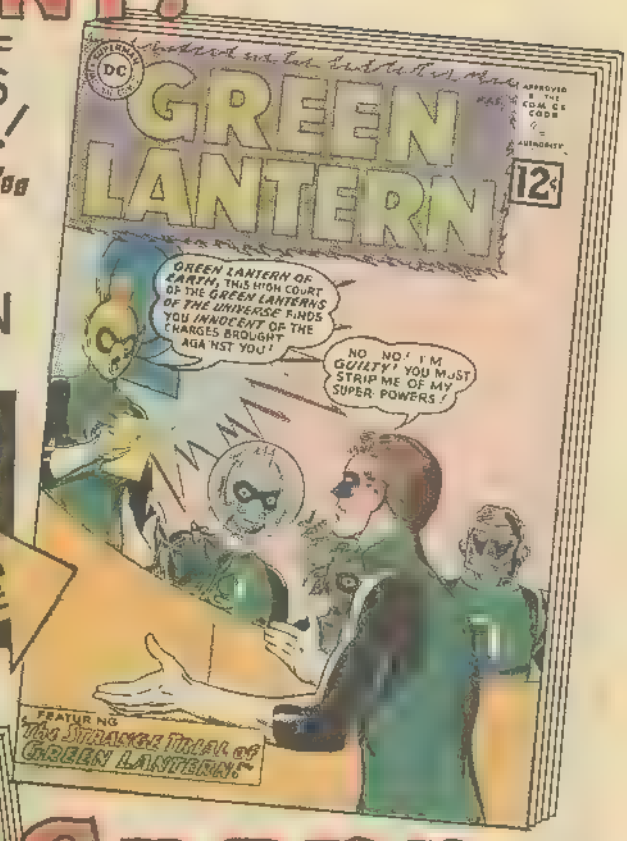
"GUILTY!"

PROTESTED GREEN LANTERN of EARTH!

WHAT WOULD *YOUR* VERDICT BE IF YOU SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE JURY AT...

The STRANGE TRIAL of GREEN LANTERN!

APPEARING IN THIS EXCITING ISSUE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GREEN LANTERN
12¢
GREEN LANTERN OF EARTH, THIS HIGH COURT OF THE GREEN LANTERNS OF THE UNIVERSE FINDS YOU INNOCENT OF THE CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST YOU!
NO, NO! I'M GUILTY! YOU MUST STRIP ME OF MY SUPER POWERS!
FEATURING The STRANGE TRIAL of GREEN LANTERN!

DC
12¢
The FLASH
I TOLD YOU YOU'D BE IN FOR A SHOCK THE NEXT TIME WE CLASHED, FLASH!
FEATURING THE AMAZING RETURN OF GRODD, THE SUPER GORILLA!
SUPER-GORILLA!

GRODD — the SUPER-GORILLA — is BACK!

...BACK TO TAUNT HIS ENEMY *The FLASH* WITH THE GREATEST STUNT OF HIS CAREER... MAKING IT *IMPOSSIBLE* FOR THE *SCARLET SPEEDSTER* TO GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO FIGHT HIM!

What a Predicament! What a Story! What an Issue!

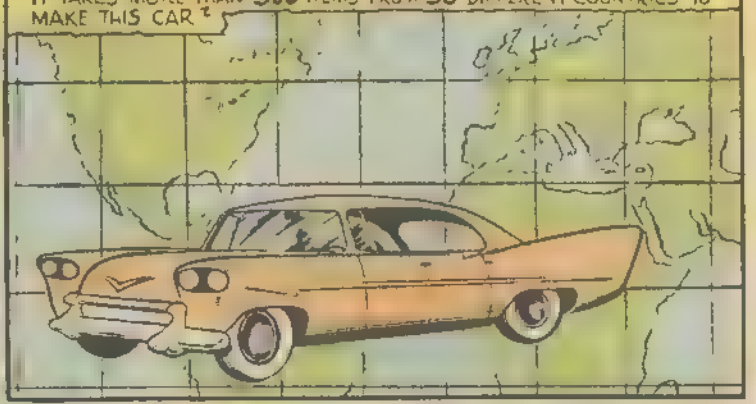
SUPERMAN · DC · NATIONAL COMICS

ON SALE EVERYWHERE!

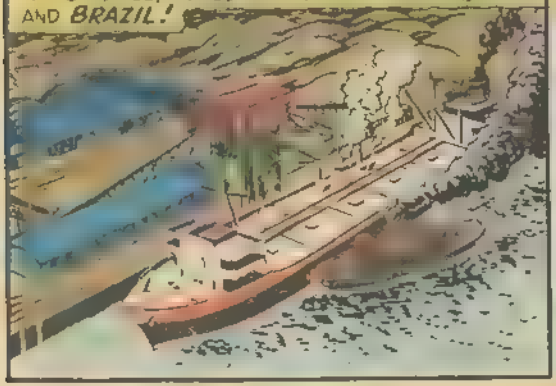
FROM MANY LANDS...

FROM THE DAWN OF HISTORY, PEOPLE HAVE TRADED WITH EACH OTHER TO ACQUIRE THINGS THEY NEEDED IN EXCHANGE FOR THINGS THEY HAD PLENTY OF. IN OUR COMPLEX MODERN WORLD, THIS TRADE IS NOW MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER.

TAKE A MODERN AMERICAN AUTOMOBILE, FOR INSTANCE. DO YOU KNOW IT TAKES MORE THAN **300** ITEMS FROM **56** DIFFERENT COUNTRIES TO MAKE THIS CAR?



MANGANESE, 4 POUNDS OF WHICH IS USED IN EVERY TON OF STEEL, COMES FROM ***SOUTH AFRICA, INDIA*** AND ***BRAZIL!***



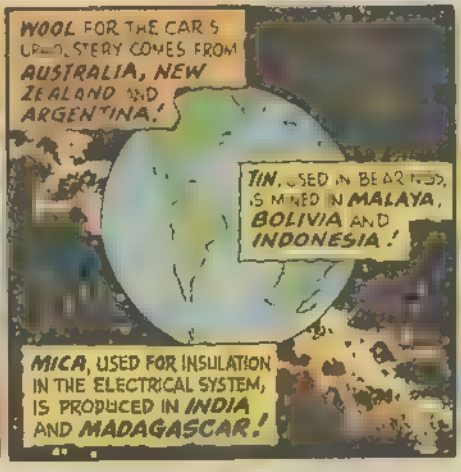
RUBBER FOR THE TIRES COMES FROM ***MALAYA, SUMATRA, BRAZIL,*** THE ***EAST INDIES, CEYLON*** AND ***AFRICA!***

CHROMIUM, USED FOR PLATING THE TRIM AND FOR SPECIAL STEELS, COMES FROM ***SOUTHERN RHODESIA, SOUTH AFRICA*** AND ***TURKEY!***

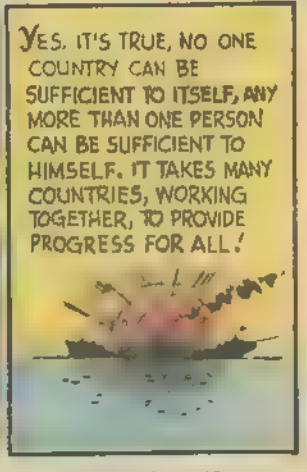
WOOL FOR THE CAR'S UPHOLSTERY COMES FROM ***AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND*** AND ***ARGENTINA!***

TIN, USED IN BEARINGS, IS MINED IN ***MALAYA, BOLIVIA*** AND ***INDONESIA!***

MICA, USED FOR INSULATION IN THE ELECTRICAL SYSTEM, IS PRODUCED IN ***INDIA*** AND ***MADAGASCAR!***



YES, IT'S TRUE, NO ONE COUNTRY CAN BE SUFFICIENT TO ITSELF, ANY MORE THAN ONE PERSON CAN BE SUFFICIENT TO HIMSELF. IT TAKES MANY COUNTRIES, WORKING TOGETHER, TO PROVIDE PROGRESS FOR ALL!



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The SPACEMAN WHO FOUGHT HIMSELF! PART 2

STUNNED BY WHAT HAPPENED, THE EARTHMAN FEVERISHLY STRUGGLES WITH THE DIMENSI—PORTER CONTROLS WHEN...

I MUST HAVE MISUNDERSTOOD HORTAN VAR WHEN HE EXPLAINED HOW TO WORK THE TELEPORTER CONTROLS!

YOU'RE TRAPPED HERE, ADAM STRANGE! THE FUEL CYLINDER WAS EXHAUSTED TAKING YOU TO DEAD MARAGOL!

WHAT'S THAT? I--I DON'T UNDERSTAND...

THERE IS NO DIMENSIONAL WORLD OF KAI! NO WAR-LORDS! NO PLOT TO EXILE HORTAN VAR INTO YOUR DIMENSION! IT WAS ALL A BIG LIE--TO GET YOU OFF THE PLANET RANN!

FOR MANY MONTHS WE HAVE STUDIED RANN, INTENDING TO ATTACK IT! WE ARE A GROUP OF PROFESSIONAL WARRIORS TRAVELING THROUGH SPACE, LOOTING PLANETS! BUT WHEN WE SAW HOW YOU ALWAYS OVERCAME ANY THREAT TO RANN, WE DECIDED TO GET YOU OUT OF THE WAY BEFORE ATTACKING!

BY CHANCE, ONE OF OUR WARRIORS--HORTAN VAR--LOOKED LIKE YOUR TWIN! HE WAS GIVEN THE MISSION TO LAND ON RANN IN THE TELEPORT MACHINE AND TELL YOU THAT WILD STORY WHICH YOU SWALLOWED!

SWALLOWED--HOOK, LINE AND SINKER!

SUDDENLY THE DESPAIRING ADAM STRANGE LEAPS TO HIS FEET...

SO EVERYTHING HORTAN VAR SAID WAS UNTRUE! BUT HEAR THIS--WHEN THE ZETA-BEAM WEARS OFF I'LL AUTOMATICALLY GO BACK TO EARTH! AND FROM EARTH I'LL RETURN TO RANN ON ANOTHER ZETA-BEAM AND...

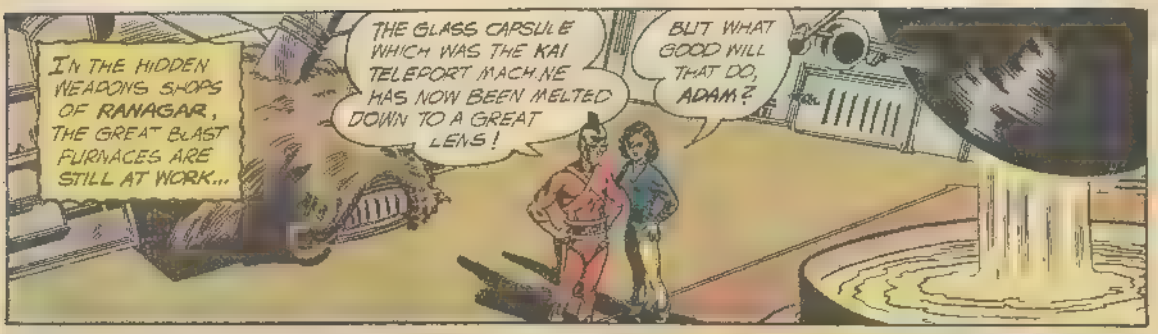
--COME TO A DEAD END!

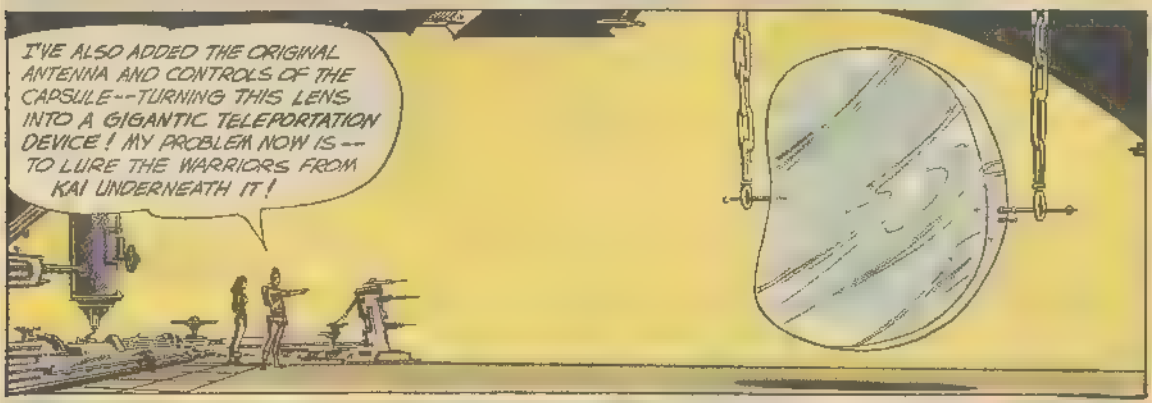
"SINCE WE DID NOT KNOW HOW OFTEN THE ZETA-BEAM BROUGHT YOU TO RANN, WE NEEDED TIME TO COMPLETE OUR CONQUEST--WHICH IS WHY WE SENT YOU HERE TO THIS WORLD..."

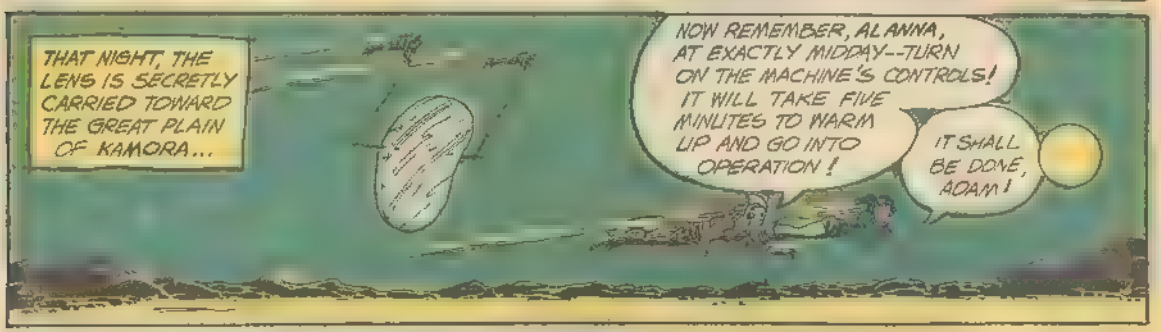
WHILE ADAM STRANGE IS STRANDED ON MARAGOL--AND WHILE HE HAS TO SPEND SOME MORE TIME ON EARTH--WE'LL CONQUER RANN EASILY!

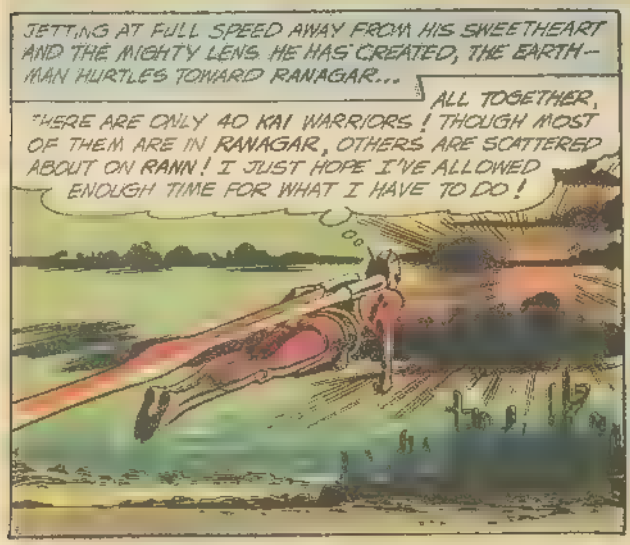
"AFTER OVERCOMING RANN HE WILL LEARN WHERE AND WHEN THE ZETA-BEAM WILL BRING YOU TO RANN--AND STATION SOLDIERS THERE TO BLAST YOU AS SOON AS YOU APPEAR..."
WE WILL CONQUER RANN--AND YOU CAN'T STOP US! SHOULD YOU BE FOOLHARDY ENOUGH TO RETURN TO RANN--YOU'LL BE INSTANTLY DESTROYED!
I'VE LOST ALANNA! I'LL NEVER SEE HER--OR RANN--AGAIN!
FOR THE NEXT TWO DAYS THE YOUNG EARTHMAN SULKS IN GLOOM, WEAK FROM LACK OF FOOD AND WATER HE WAITS TO BE TELEPORTED BACK TO HIS NATIVE PLANET! THEN HE GETS AN IDEA.
I HAVE ONE CHANCE IN A MILLION--BUT I'M GOING TO TAKE IT!
AS THE ZETA-BEAM WEARS OFF, HE IS DRAWN BACK TO EARTH--BUT WITH HIM GOES THE "USELESS" TELEPORT MACHINE.
I'M SOMEWHERE IN THE PACIFIC! BY FASTENING A TOW-LINE TO THE GLASS CAPSULE I CAN DRAG IT AFTER ME UNTIL I REACH CIVILIZATION!
WITHIN A WEEK HE IS USING THE FACILITIES OF AN AUSTRALIAN LABORATORY, DUE TO HIS REPUTATION AS AN ARCHEOLOGIST...
THERE WAS JUST ENOUGH SEDIMENT LEFT IN THE FUEL CHAMBER OF THE TELEPORT MACHINE TO ENABLE ME TO ANALYZE IT AND--MAKE A NEW FUEL CARTRIDGE!
AND SO, A FEW DAYS LATER, HAVING INSERTED A NEW FUEL CARTRIDGE INTO THE FUEL CHAMBER, HE ACTIVATES THE TELEPORT MACHINE ONCE MORE..
I CAME FAR ENOUGH OUT IN THE ARUNTA DESERT SO NO ONE COULD SEE ME WHEN I LEAVE FOR RANN!
ALMOST INSTANTLY, HE TELEPORTS HIMSELF TO THE PLANET RANN...
THERE ARE THE KAI WARRIORS WAITING TO BLAST ME IF I APPEAR ON THE ZETA-BEAM! THEY DON'T KNOW THIS TELEPORT MACHINE IS IN WORKING ORDER AGAIN!

IN THE KAI TELEPORTER ADAM JETS TOWARD RANAGAR, WHERE, UNDER COVER OF A MOONLESS NIGHT
ALANNA--IT'S ADAM!
OHHH!
AS HIS SWEET HEART CLINGS TO HIM, THE EARTHMAN TELLS HER WHAT HAS HAPPENED..
BUT ADAM--EVEN WITH YOU HERE THERE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE ANY HOPE OF DEFEATING OUR CONQUERORS!
MOMENTS AFTER YOU TELEPORTED OFF FOR MARAGOL, THE KAI ATTACKED! THEIR SPACESHIP WAS PLATED WITH SUPER-SCIENTIFIC DEVICES SO OUR WEAPONS WOULD HAVE NO EFFECT ON IT...
"SINCE RESISTANCE WAS USELESS, AND WOULD INVOLVE A HEAVY LOSS OF LIFE WITHOUT HOPE OF SUCCESS, OUR COMMANDER HAD TO SURRENDER..."
"SINCE MY FATHER HAD KEPT HORTAN VAR IN A RAY-LUNG TO MAINTAIN HIS BODILY PROCESSES DURING HIS DEATH, HE WAS SOON RESTORED TO LIFE..."
YOU TREATED ME WELL, SO YOUR PEOPLE WILL NOT BE MOLESTED--JUST SO LONG AS THEY OBEY OUR COMMANDS!
I HAVE A PLAN TO DEFEAT HORTAN VAR AND HIS KAI SOLDIERS ALANNA--WHICH REQUIRES HELP FROM YOUR FATHER AND OTHER SCIENTISTS OF RANN!
ANYTHING ADAM! OUR PEOPLE WILL DO ANYTHING YOU SAY IF IT WILL GAIN OUR FREEDOM!

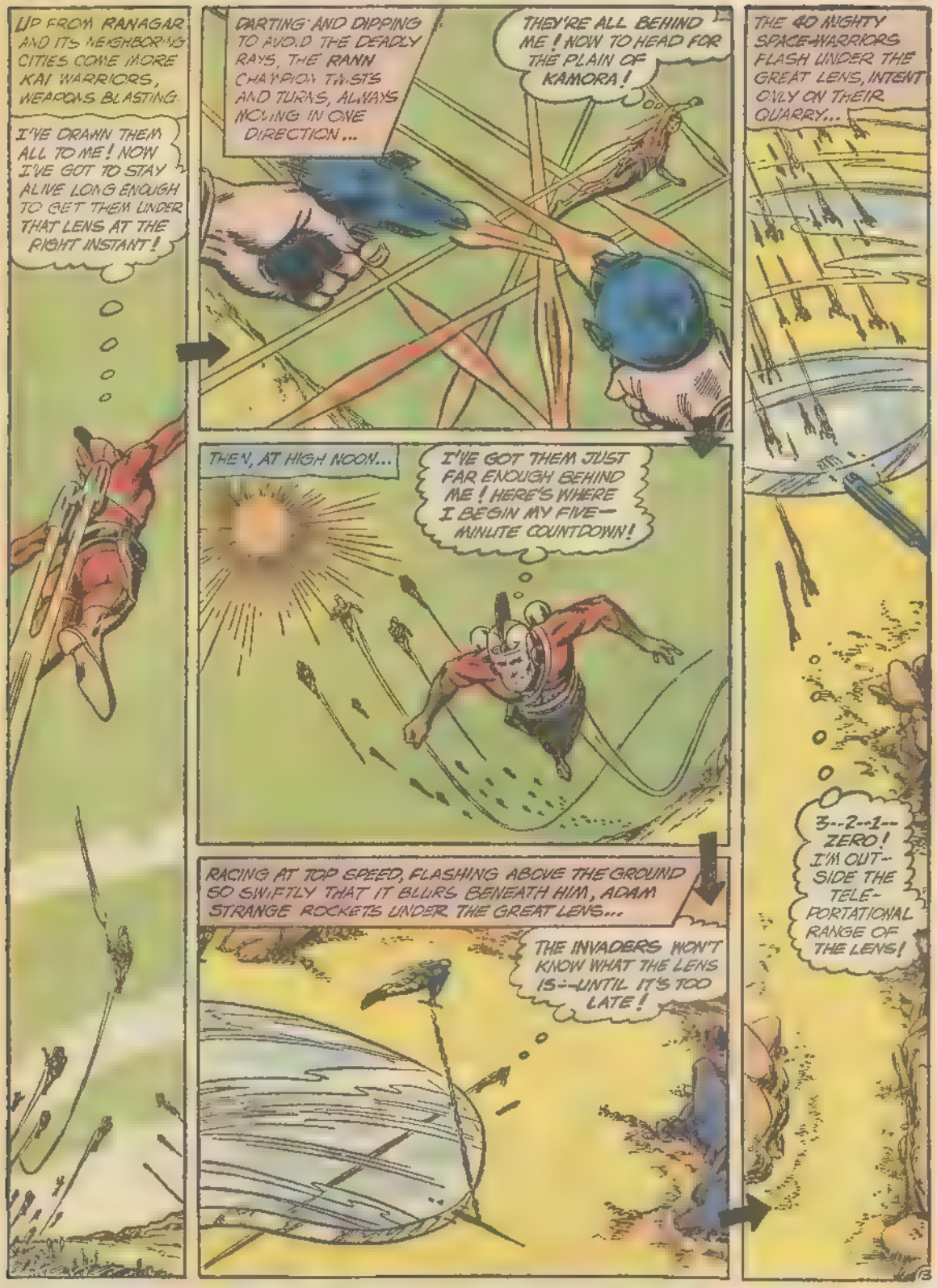

IN THE HIDDEN WEAPONS SHOPS OF RANAGAR, THE GREAT BLAST FURNACES ARE STILL AT WORK...
THE GLASS CAPSULE WHICH WAS THE KAI TELEPORT MACHINE HAS NOW BEEN MELTED DOWN TO A GREAT LENS!
BUT WHAT GOOD WILL THAT DO, ADAM?

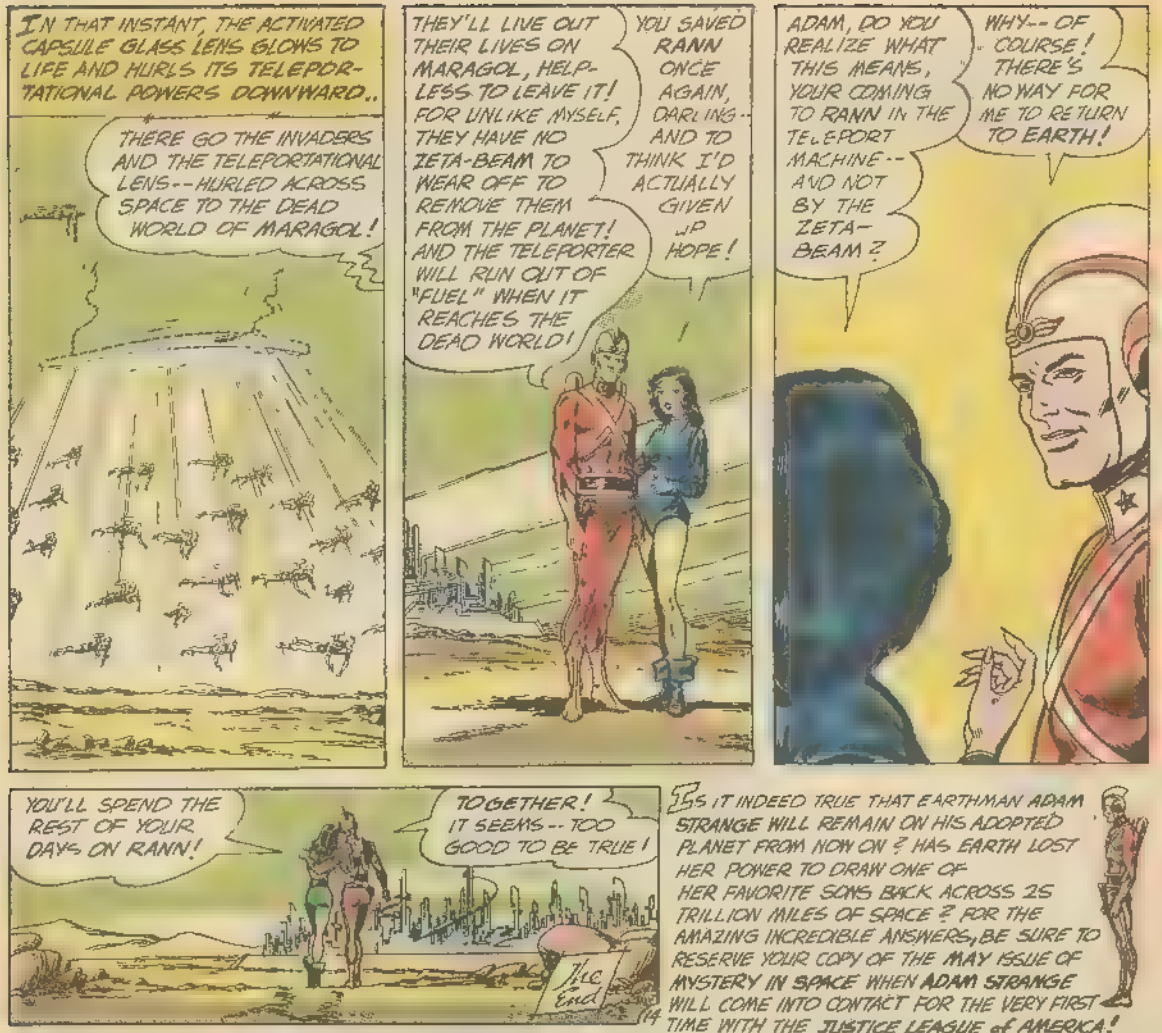

I'VE ALSO ADDED THE ORIGINAL ANTENNA AND CONTROLS OF THE CAPSULE--TURNING THIS LENS INTO A GIGANTIC TELEPORTATION DEVICE! MY PROBLEM NOW IS -- TO LURE THE WARRIORS FROM KAI UNDERNEATH IT!


THAT NIGHT, THE LENS IS SECRETLY CARRIED TOWARD THE GREAT PLAIN OF KAMORA...
NOW REMEMBER, ALANNA, AT EXACTLY MIDDAY--TURN ON THE MACHINE'S CONTROLS! IT WILL TAKE FIVE MINUTES TO WARM UP AND GO INTO OPERATION!
IT SHALL BE DONE, ADAM!


JETTING AT FULL SPEED AWAY FROM HIS SWEETHEART AND THE MIGHTY LENS HE HAS CREATED, THE EARTH-MAN HURTLES TOWARD RANAGAR...
ALL TOGETHER, THERE ARE ONLY 40 KAI WARRIORS! THOUGH MOST OF THEM ARE IN RANAGAR, OTHERS ARE SCATTERED ABOUT ON RANN! I JUST HOPE I'VE ALLOWED ENOUGH TIME FOR WHAT I HAVE TO DO!

SHORTLY THEREAFTER, AS ADAM IS SIGHTED BY THE PLANET-PLUNDERERS...
LOOK! IT'S ADAM STRANGE! AFTER HIM!
HOW COULD HE HAVE RETURNED TO RANN WITHOUT OUR KNOWING IT?


UP FROM RANAGAR AND ITS NEIGHBOR'S CITIES COME MORE KAI WARRIORS, WEAPONS BLASTING.
I'VE DRAWN THEM ALL TO ME! NOW I'VE GOT TO STAY ALIVE LONG ENOUGH TO GET THEM UNDER THAT LENS AT THE RIGHT INSTANT!
DARTING AND DIPPING TO AVOID THE DEADLY RAYS, THE RANN CHAMPION TWISTS AND TURNS, ALWAYS MOVING IN ONE DIRECTION...
THEY'RE ALL BEHIND ME! NOW TO HEAD FOR THE PLAIN OF KAMORA!
THEN, AT HIGH NOON...
I'VE GOT THEM JUST FAR ENOUGH BEHIND ME! HERE'S WHERE I BEGIN MY FIVE-MINUTE COUNTDOWN!
RACING AT TOP SPEED, FLASHING ABOVE THE GROUND SO SWIFTLY THAT IT BLURS BENEATH HIM, ADAM STRANGE ROCKETS UNDER THE GREAT LENS...
THE INVADERS WON'T KNOW WHAT THE LENS IS--UNTIL IT'S TOO LATE!
THE 40 MIGHTY SPACE-WARRIORS FLASH UNDER THE GREAT LENS, INTENT ONLY ON THEIR QUARRY...
3--2--1--ZERO! I'M OUTSIDE THE TELEPORTATIONAL RANGE OF THE LENS!

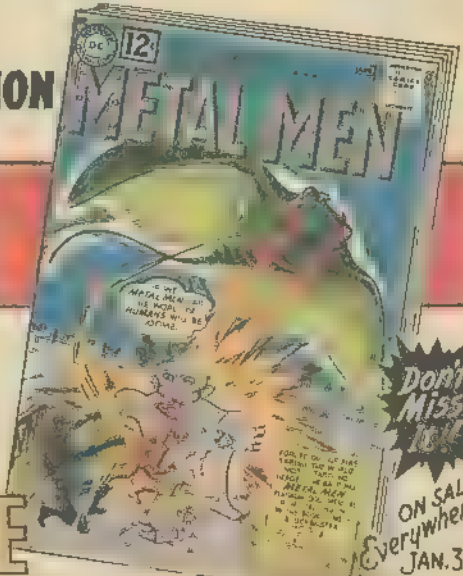

IN THAT INSTANT, THE ACTIVATED CAPSULE GLASS LENS GLOWS TO LIFE AND HURLS ITS TELEPORTATIONAL POWERS DOWNWARD..
THERE GO THE INVADERS AND THE TELEPORTATIONAL LENS--HURLED ACROSS SPACE TO THE DEAD WORLD OF MARAGOL!
THEY'LL LIVE OUT THEIR LIVES ON MARAGOL, HELPLESS TO LEAVE IT! FOR UNLIKE MYSELF, THEY HAVE NO ZETA-BEAM TO WEAR OFF TO REMOVE THEM FROM THE PLANET! AND THE TELEPORTER WILL RUN OUT OF "FUEL" WHEN IT REACHES THE DEAD WORLD!
YOU SAVED RANN ONCE AGAIN, DARLING--AND TO THINK I'D ACTUALLY GIVEN UP HOPE!
ADAM, DO YOU REALIZE WHAT THIS MEANS, YOUR COMING TO RANN IN THE TELEPORT MACHINE--AND NOT BY THE ZETA-BEAM?
WHY--OF COURSE! THERE'S NO WAY FOR ME TO RETURN TO EARTH!
YOU'LL SPEND THE REST OF YOUR DAYS ON RANN!
TOGETHER! IT SEEMS--TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE!
The End

IS IT INDEED TRUE THAT EARTHMAN ADAM STRANGE WILL REMAIN ON HIS ADOPTED PLANET FROM NOW ON? HAS EARTH LOST HER POWER TO DRAW ONE OF HER FAVORITE SONS BACK ACROSS 25 TRILLION MILES OF SPACE? FOR THE AMAZING INCREDIBLE ANSWERS, BE SURE TO RESERVE YOUR COPY OF THE MAY ISSUE OF MYSTERY IN SPACE WHEN ADAM STRANGE WILL COME INTO CONTACT FOR THE VERY FIRST TIME WITH THE JUSTICE LEAGUE of AMERICA!

MORE STARTLING THAN TOMORROW'S SCIENCE-FICTION is the

METAL MEN

HEROES FORGED OUT OF SMOKE AND FLAME TO BATTLE UNIQUE THREATS! THIS METAL BAND LIVES--AND DIES FIGHTING FANTASTIC FURIES FOR MANKIND!



in the ASTONISHING APRIL ISSUE of SHOWCASE

Don't Miss It!

ON SALE Everywhere JAN. 30th

SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS

WONDERS of SPACE

Dear Editor: I've just finished reading the November *Mystery in Space* and I must say it is one of the best yet. First, I'd like to congratulate artists Carmine Infantino and Murphy Anderson for the wonderful cover. There was something about this cover that made it a particular standout among the others on the stands.

Gardner Fox, *Adam Strange's* wonderful writer, sure came up with a great story this time. The reason I enjoyed it so much is this: Crystal Creatures and the like are such an old invasion plot that after a while you get tired of it; but not in this story! Mr. Fox dreamed up an excitingly new and fresh plot and got rid of the creatures other than by the cliche method of *sound!* I hope you decide to continue the double-length *Adam Strange* stories, because with the previously published 9-pagers, we hardly started the story before it seemed we were through with it.

There's one thing that puzzles me about Infantino's artwork. How come that Anderson inked his penciled cover, yet Joe Giella inked his inside pages? Then again, in your companion magazine *Strange Adventures*, Infantino not only pencils the *Space Museum* stories but inks them too! Please explain.

Paul Seydor,
R.D. 1,
Imperial, Pa.

(The answer to your puzzle is quite a complicated one, but we'll try and explain it as simply as possible. Let's call the time it takes to pencil *a story* one unit, *and the time required to* ink *a story* one more unit. *Thus, for Infantino to pencil and ink a story would take* two units of time. *Now let us have Infantino complete a pencil job, and then as he immediately begins penciling a second story, let us have someone else ink his first story. By the time Infantino has penciled that second story, the first one will be inked. Thus in a period of two units of time we will have obtained three units of art.*

What this all boils down to is we have a production problem. We must get the maximum work out of our artists in the minimum time.

The reason Anderson happened to ink the November Mystery in Space *cover is because he was available; Giella was busy inking a* Flash *story. On the other hand, Giella was chosen to ink the* Adam Strange *story because Anderson was occupied with some other work.*

As for Infantino both penciling and inking the Space Museum *stories—he doesn't want to lose his inking skill, so every now and then we graciously allow him (at a loss of valuable time) to ink over his own pencils.*

We hope all of this is clear to you—*because now that we've tried to explain it, it isn't very clear to* us!—*Editor)*

• • •

Dear Editor: Last night a strange thing happened to me while I was reading the latest *Adam Strange* story, "The Multiple Menace Weapon." I heard a noise that made my orbs pop and my Adam's apple do a jig.

In my yard was a spaceship with three furry, purple creatures beside it. They forced themselves into my room and grabbed my collection of comic books, but threw aside my *Adam Strange* one. I was shocked and asked them why they did not take it. The leader said, "Aw, he ain't no good!" (He was an alien, remember, so he didn't speak very good English!)

I argued for my hero, so finally the aliens agreed to read it. When they were done they were so excited that they ran to their ship, threw away the other comic books, and blasted off with my *Adam Strange* copy in their possession.

Well, you'll have to excuse me now for I have to go to the newsstand and get another copy of that *Adam Strange* book. Maybe I'll get *two* this time, just in case . . .

Tom Earl Brown,
Route 1,
Salada, Texas.

(This letter really "sent" us—so we're sending the writer the original artwork pages on the Adam Strange *story, "The Invisible Raiders of Rann!"—Editor)*

Dear Editor: Does anyone else on earth know about *Adam Strange's* ability to travel instantly from one planet to another? I think *Adam* should confide his secret to someone on earth —maybe a member of the *Justice League of America*. In that way perhaps a *JLA* member could help *Adam* out of a critical situation—or vice versa!

Robert L. Adams,
527 S. Lee St.,
Alexandria, Va.

(*It has been established that* Adam Strange's *ability to teleport himself to* Rann *is a secret he shares with no one else on Earth. However, a number of readers have pointed out that when the* Justice League of America *was considering the admission of new members (in the May,* 1961 *issue of* JLA), The Flash *nominated* Adam Strange—*when presumably he couldn't have known of his existence! The answer to this paradox is revealed in the very next issue of* Mystery in Space *when* Adam Strange *teams up with the* Justice League *in a full-length novel, "The Planet that Came to a Standstill!"* —*Editor*)

* * *

Dear Editor: This is the first time I have ever written to *Mystery in Space*, and I am doing so to inform you that you have an above-average magazine. I enjoy your science-fiction stories, particularly those featuring *Adam Strange*. This is why I am congratulating you on extending the length of his stories.

HOWEVER—I think some things are wrong!

1. All *Adam Strange's* menaces are aliens, monsters, and so forth. We get enough of this in other comics—please, be sensible and different! I would like to see *Adam* have a regular enemy who is human—or a series of villains who are featured over and over!

2. Let's have *Adam* in action on Earth!

3. I would like to see *Adam* go to *Rann* on one occasion and find *Alanna* missing! Or, simply have an adventure without *Alanna* at all!

Finally, I would like to say that the *non-Adam Strange* stories are much better than other comics' space-mystery yarns!

Paul Gambaccini,
8 Elizabeth Drive,
Westport, Conn.

(*Reader suggestions are always welcome and are carefully considered. When the suggestions have merit, they are adopted . . . in time. Check with future issues to see whether your "wrongs" are "righted"!*—*Editor*)

* * *

Dear Editor: I have a question for you: where did *Adam Strange* get his uniform that he wears so often? I have read almost all your stories but I never saw it mentioned how and where he got his uniform.

Vincent Mansfield,
Flushing, N.Y.

(*The second* Adam Strange *story—"The Planet and the Pendulum,"* Showcase *number 17—revealed that* Adam *first obtained his uniform from a wrecked spaceship. If on occasion he needed a duplicate uniform, his sweetheart* Alanna *made it for him.*—*Editor*)

* * *

Dear Editor: I always enjoy a new *Mystery in Space* when one comes out, especially the very fine *Adam Strange* stories. He's my second favorite comic-book hero (*Green Lantern* is my first). All of which leads me to suggest an idea how both my favorites can appear together.

Say that the planet *Rann* is in Sector 2814 (*Green Lantern's* section), and the *Guardians*, not knowing about *Adam Strange*, assign *Green Lantern* there to fight a particularly dangerous menace: *Adam Strange* makes one of his periodical visits to *Rann* via the *zeta-beam*, meets *Green Lantern*, and the two team up to overcome the menace. How does it sound?

Stephen Goldin,
2038 S. Corning St.,
Los Angeles 34, Cal.

(*Sounds okay as far as it goes. But we're going to top you in the next issue when not only* Green Lantern—*but a whole slew of superheroes—appears with* Adam Strange!—*Editor*)

* * *

Dear Editor: I am a loyal fan of *Mystery in Space* and enjoy your science-fiction very much, especially the *Adam Strange* stories.

I hope you don't mind a few questions. First, what is *Alanna's* last name? Second, has *Adam Strange* ever met a menace he couldn't defeat? Third, at what time-intervals does the *zeta-beam* from *Rann* strike Earth?

Brian White,
5 Applewood Bay East,
St. Boniface, Windsor Park,
Winnipeg, Manitoba, Can.

(Alanna's *complete name is* Alanna of Ranagar. *Once a name has been assigned to a person in any city of* Rann, *no one else can use it during his or her lifetime.* Adam Strange *is the undefeated champion of* Rann; *he has never been bested in combat. There is no set pattern to how often the* zeta-beam *strikes Earth; but* Adam *has a record on when and where each one is due to hit.*—*Editor*)

Letters to this department should be addressed to MYSTERY IN SPACE, National Periodical Publications, 575 Lexington Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.

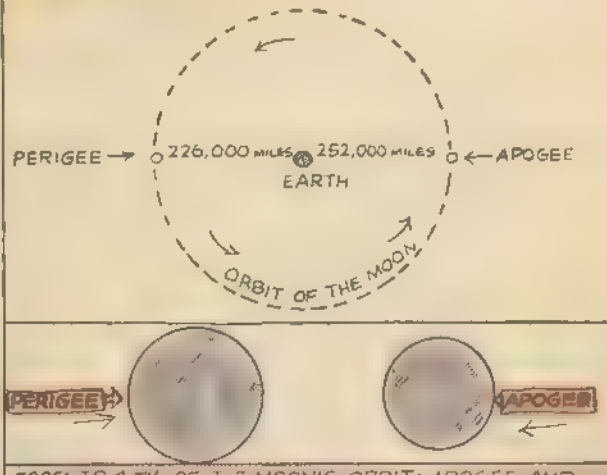
GIANTS OF THE TELESCOPE

ALEXIS CLAIRAUT... (1713-1765)

A MATHEMATICAL GENIUS AT THE AGE OF TEN, PARIS-BORN ALEXIS CLAIRAUT PRODUCED IN 1743 A CLASSICAL WORK ON THE SHAPE OF THE EARTH, DISCUSSING THE FORM THE ROTATING EARTH ASSUMES UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE MUTUAL GRAVITATION OF ITS PART, THE DENSITY OF THE PLANET'S INTERIOR, AND THE CHANGES IN DIFFERENT LATITUDES OF THE WORLD'S ACCELERATION DUE TO GRAVITY...

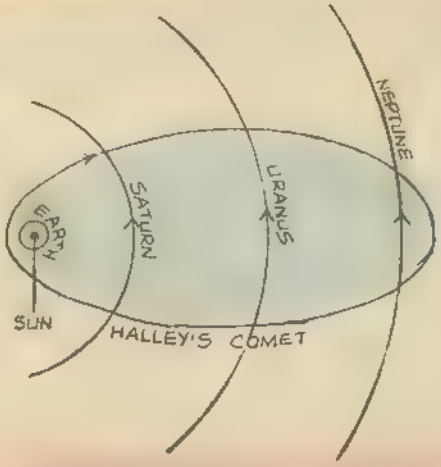
ROTATION OF THE EARTH: DISTANCE TRAVELED BY DIFFERENT POINTS ON THE SURFACE DURING EQUAL TIMES.

IN 1750, CLAIRAUT'S CALCULATIONS OF THE MOTION OF THE MOON WON FOR HIM A PRIZE OFFERED BY THE ST. PETERSBURG ACADEMY. HIS SET OF LUNAR MOTION TABLES WAS OF ACCURATE IT WAS SELDOM IN ERROR MORE THAN 1½ MINUTES...



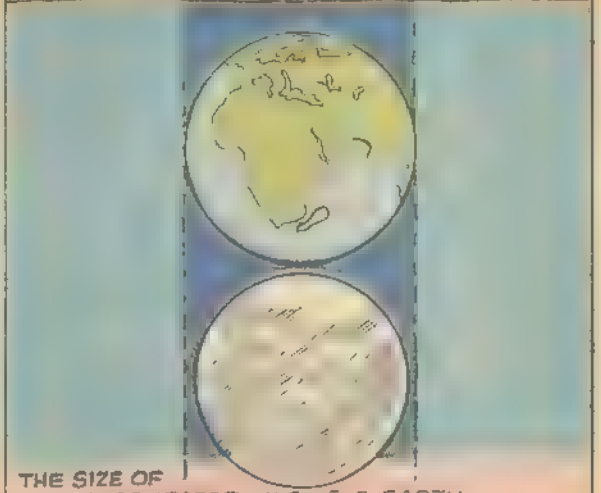
ECCENTRICITY OF THE MOON'S ORBIT: APOGEE AND PERIGEE, AND THE CONSEQUENT VARIATIONS IN THE MOON'S APPARENT DIAMETER

SHORTLY BEFORE THE PREDICTED RETURN OF HALLEY'S COMET IN 1758, CLAIRAUT CALCULATED THE EFFECTS OF THE COMET'S SPEED BEING SLOWED DOWN WHEN PASSING CLOSE TO THE GIANT PLANETS JUPITER AND SATURN...



THE PATH OF HALLEY'S COMET

BESIDES THE PERTURBATIONS TO HALLEY'S COMET, CLAIRAUT DID EXTENSIVE WORK ON THE PERTURBATIONS OF THE EARTH DUE TO VENUS AND THE MOON. IN THIS MANNER, HE DETERMINED THAT THE MOON'S MASS WAS ABOUT 1/81 OF EARTH'S AND VENUS' MASS 1/2 OF EARTH'S.



THE SIZE OF VENUS COMPARED WITH THE EARTH

Where is the PARADISE of SPACE?

A Star Rover Story...

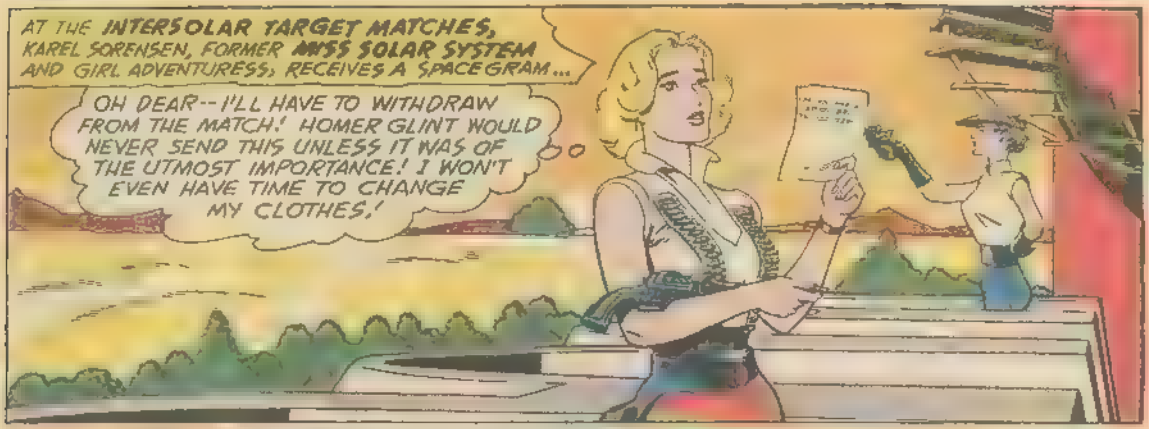
Rick Purvis Karel Sorensen Homer Glint

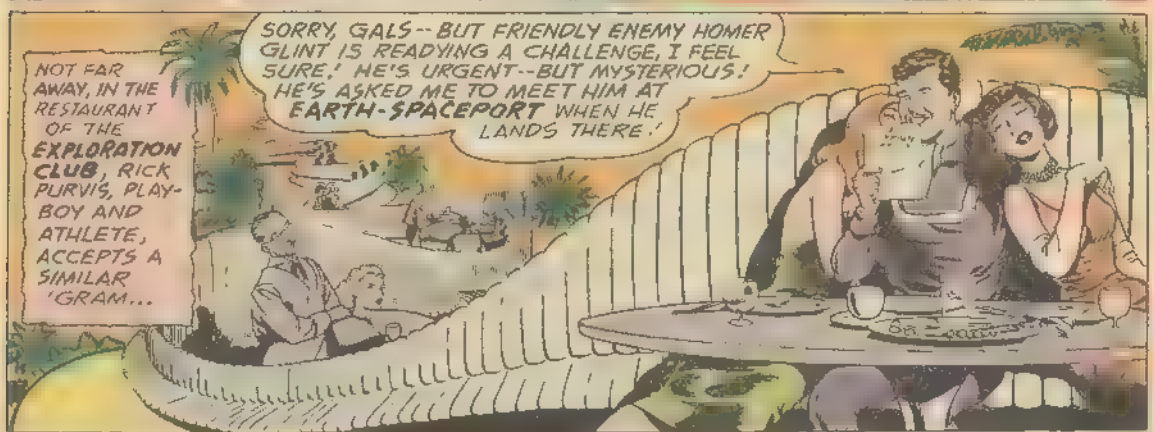
KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE GALAXY WORLDS FOR THEIR GREAT FEATS OF EXPLORATION -- THE THREE **STAR ROVERS** MEET ONCE AGAIN ON A MYSTERIOUS ISLAND OF SPACE WHICH FULFILLS THEIR WILDEST DREAMS! WHAT IS THE SECRET OF THIS ISLAND WITH ITS STRANGE ALLURE? CAN RICK PURVIS, PLAYBOY - KAREL SORENSEN, GLAMOR GIRL ADVENTURESS -- AND NOVELIST-SPORTSMAN HOMER GLINT -- SOLVE THE MYSTERY? AND IF THEY DO SO -- WILL THEY BE **RIGHT** -- OR **WRONG**?

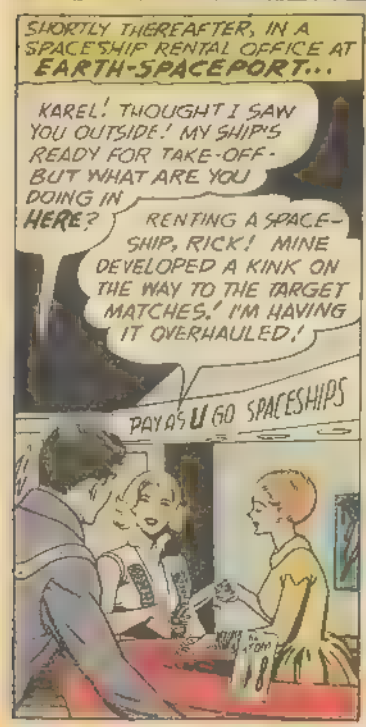
THIS IS INCREDIBLE! FOR ONCE WE ALL AGREE -- THAT WE'RE ON A **PARADISE ISLAND OF SPACE** --

- WHERE WHAT YOU WANT MOST TO HAPPEN - **DOES** HAPPEN!

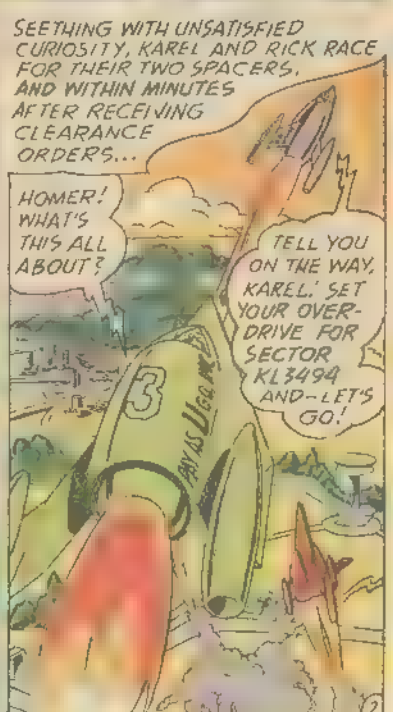
THAT'S WHAT WORRIES ME! WE'VE ALWAYS BEEN **WRONG** BEFORE, EVEN WHEN WE DISAGREED! WE CAN'T POSSIBLY BE **RIGHT** -- NOW THAT WE AGREE!


AT THE INTERSOLAR TARGET MATCHES, KAREL SORENSEN, FORMER MISS SOLAR SYSTEM AND GIRL ADVENTURESS, RECEIVES A SPACEGRAM...
OH DEAR--I'LL HAVE TO WITHDRAW FROM THE MATCH! HOMER GLINT WOULD NEVER SEND THIS UNLESS IT WAS OF THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE! I WON'T EVEN HAVE TIME TO CHANGE MY CLOTHES!

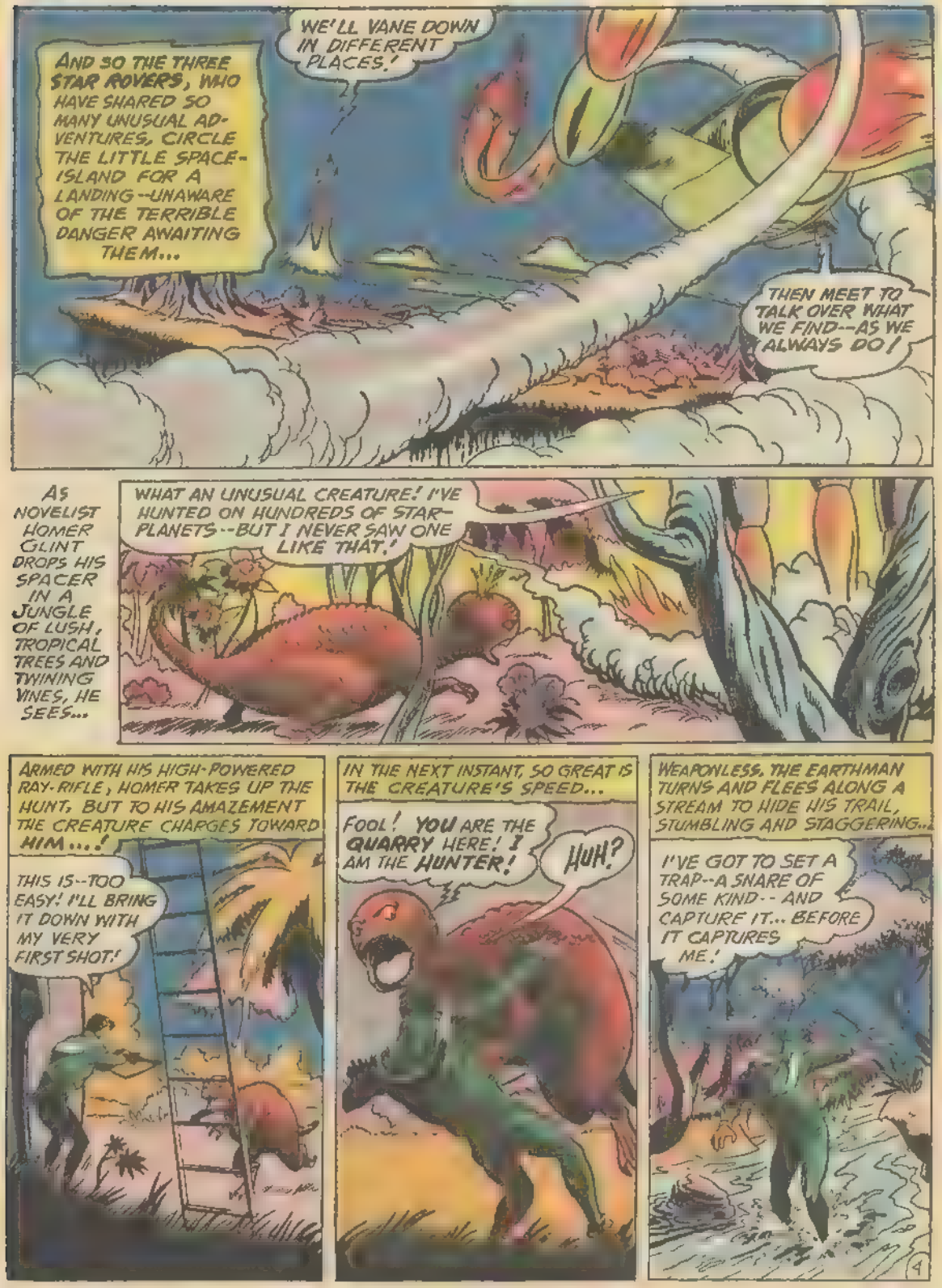

NOT FAR AWAY, IN THE RESTAURANT OF THE EXPLORATION CLUB, RICK PURVIS, PLAY-BOY AND ATHLETE, ACCEPTS A SIMILAR 'GRAM...
SORRY, GALS--BUT FRIENDLY ENEMY HOMER GLINT IS READYING A CHALLENGE, I FEEL SURE! HE'S URGENT--BUT MYSTERIOUS! HE'S ASKED ME TO MEET HIM AT EARTH-SPACEPORT WHEN HE LANDS THERE!

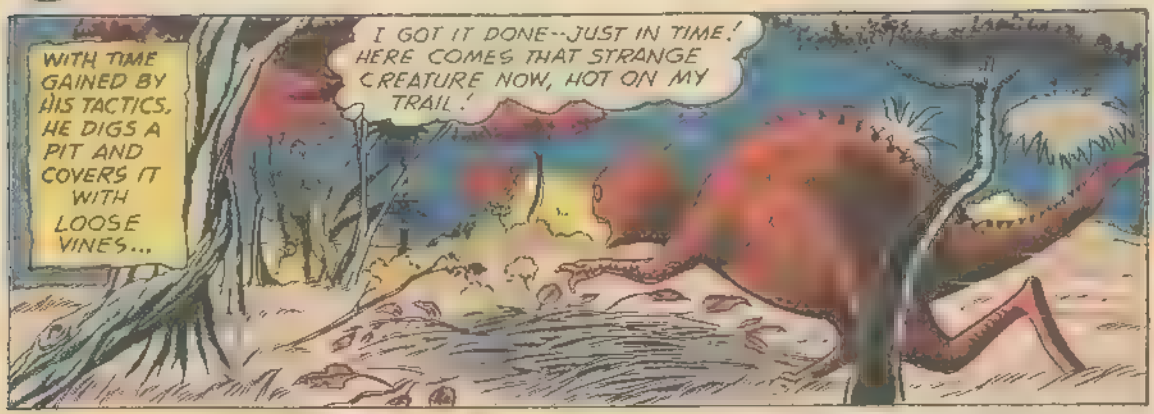

SHORTLY THEREAFTER, IN A SPACESHIP RENTAL OFFICE AT EARTH-SPACEPORT...
KAREL! THOUGHT I SAW YOU OUTSIDE! MY SHIP'S READY FOR TAKE-OFF--BUT WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN HERE?
RENTING A SPACE-SHIP, RICK! MINE DEVELOPED A KINK ON THE WAY TO THE TARGET MATCHES! I'M HAVING IT OVERHAULED!
PAY AS U GO SPACESHIPS

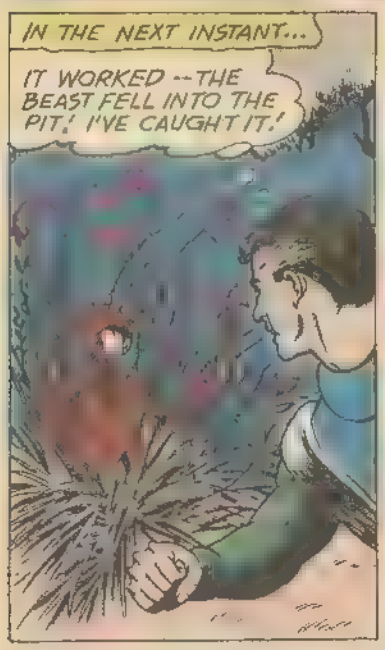
WITHIN THE HOUR THEY ARE JOINED--MOMENTARILY--BY THEIR GOOD FRIEND AND RIVAL SPACE EXPLORER, NOVELIST—SPORTSMAN HOMER GLINT...
KAREL! RICK!
COME ON--NO TIME TO EXPLAIN! JUST ADJUSTED MY SHIP'S CONTROLS TO MANUAL HANDLING! YOU TWO DO THE SAME--THEN FOLLOW ME!

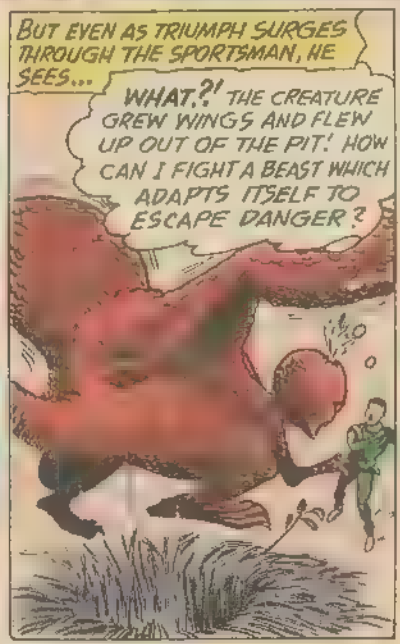

SEETHING WITH UNSATISFIED CURIOSITY, KAREL AND RICK RACE FOR THEIR TWO SPACERS, AND WITHIN MINUTES AFTER RECEIVING CLEARANCE ORDERS...
HOMER! WHAT'S THIS ALL ABOUT?
TELL YOU ON THE WAY, KAREL! SET YOUR OVER-DRIVE FOR SECTOR KL3494 AND--LET'S GO!
PAY AS U GO
3

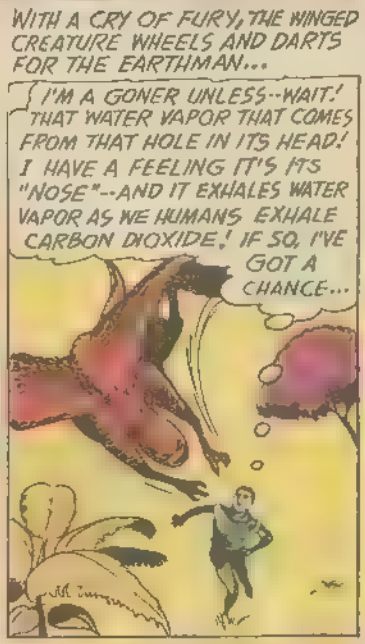
IN HIS SPACESHIP, HOMER GLINT BEGINS HIS STRANGE STORY...
IT BEGAN ABOUT TWENTY-ONE HOURS AGO IN THAT SPACE-SECTOR! I WAS ON MY WAY HOME FROM BAGGING MY LEGAL LIMIT OF ARCTURIAN RAINBIRDS WHEN I FELT A STRANGE IMPULSE...
I HURRIED TO A STARBOARD PORT AND STARED OUT AT A FLOATING ISLAND IN SPACE -- A BEAUTIFUL, LONELY OBJECT THAT CALLED TO ME AS ONCE THE SIRENS CALLED ULYSSES..."
I--I'VE GOT TO VANE DOWN ON IT! SOMETHING INSIDE ME-- DEMANDS IT!
"LIKE A MADMAN I RAN BACK TO THE CONTROL PANEL! TOO LATE-- I REMEMBERED THAT MY SHIP WAS LOCKED ON AUTOMATIC PILOT, AND THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO USE MANUAL LEVERS...
I'VE GOT TO STOP THE SHIP--TURN BACK TO THAT ISLAND!
"FOR A WHILE, I'M AFRAID I LOST MY HEAD AS I TOOK OUT MY ANGER ON THE SHIP..."
GO BACK--GO BACK! TURN AROUND! I'VE GOT TO SEE THAT SPACE ISLAND -- LAND ON IT! IT'S LURING ME - SUMMONING ME! TURN AROUND, TURN AROUND...
AS HE CONCLUDES HIS TALE...
I SENT YOU THOSE SPACEGRAMS, HOPING YOU'D WANT TO EXPLORE THIS CURIOUS ISLAND WITH ME! BUT IF YOU WANT TO TURN BACK, YOU'D BETTER DO IT NOW!
I CAN'T TURN BACK, HOMER! I MUST'VE COME WITHIN RANGE OF THE ISLAND'S STRANGE LURE! IT'S AFFECTING ME, TOO!
AND ME!
DEPOSIT COINS HERE

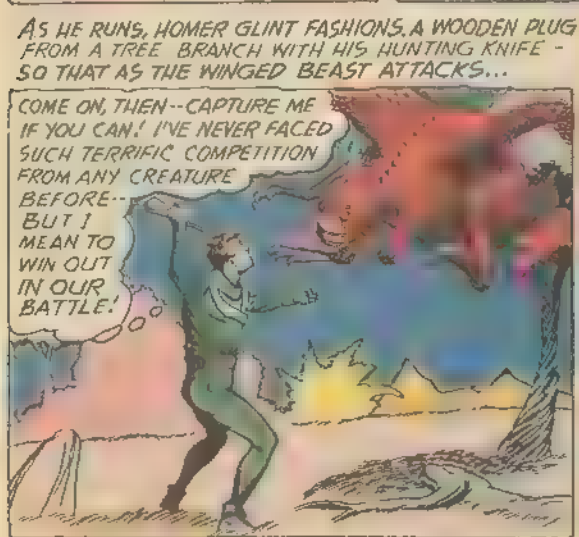

AND SO THE THREE STAR ROVERS, WHO HAVE SHARED SO MANY UNUSUAL ADVENTURES, CIRCLE THE LITTLE SPACE-ISLAND FOR A LANDING--UNAWARE OF THE TERRIBLE DANGER AWAITING THEM...
WE'LL VANE DOWN IN DIFFERENT PLACES.'
THEN MEET TO TALK OVER WHAT WE FIND--AS WE ALWAYS DO!
AS NOVELIST HOMER GLINT DROPS HIS SPACER IN A JUNGLE OF LUSH, TROPICAL TREES AND TWINING VINES, HE SEES...
WHAT AN UNUSUAL CREATURE! I'VE HUNTED ON HUNDREDS OF STAR-PLANETS--BUT I NEVER SAW ONE LIKE THAT.'
ARMED WITH HIS HIGH-POWERED RAY-RIFLE, HOMER TAKES UP THE HUNT. BUT TO HIS AMAZEMENT THE CREATURE CHARGES TOWARD HIM...!
THIS IS--TOO EASY! I'LL BRING IT DOWN WITH MY VERY FIRST SHOT!
IN THE NEXT INSTANT, SO GREAT IS THE CREATURE'S SPEED...
FOOL! YOU ARE THE QUARRY HERE! I AM THE HUNTER!
HUH?
WEAPONLESS, THE EARTHMAN TURNS AND FLEES ALONG A STREAM TO HIDE HIS TRAIL, STUMBLING AND STAGGERING...
I'VE GOT TO SET A TRAP--A SNARE OF SOME KIND--AND CAPTURE IT... BEFORE IT CAPTURES ME!
4

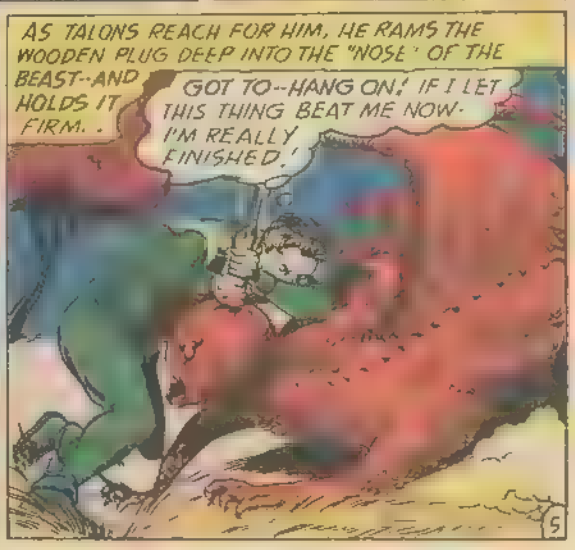

WITH TIME GAINED BY HIS TACTICS, HE DIGS A PIT AND COVERS IT WITH LOOSE VINES...
I GOT IT DONE--JUST IN TIME! HERE COMES THAT STRANGE CREATURE NOW, HOT ON MY TRAIL!


IN THE NEXT INSTANT...
IT WORKED--THE BEAST FELL INTO THE PIT! I'VE CAUGHT IT!

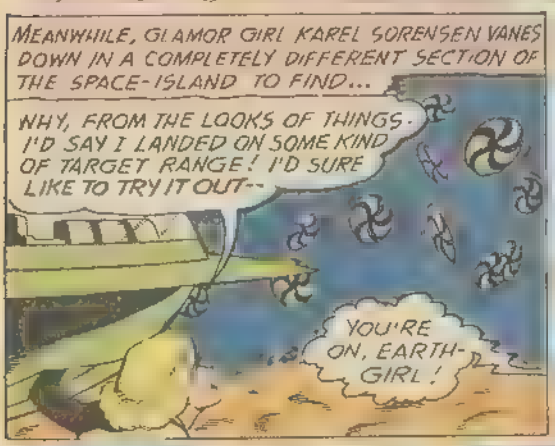

BUT EVEN AS TRIUMPH SURGES THROUGH THE SPORTSMAN, HE SEES...
WHAT?! THE CREATURE GREW WINGS AND FLEW UP OUT OF THE PIT! HOW CAN I FIGHT A BEAST WHICH ADAPTS ITSELF TO ESCAPE DANGER?

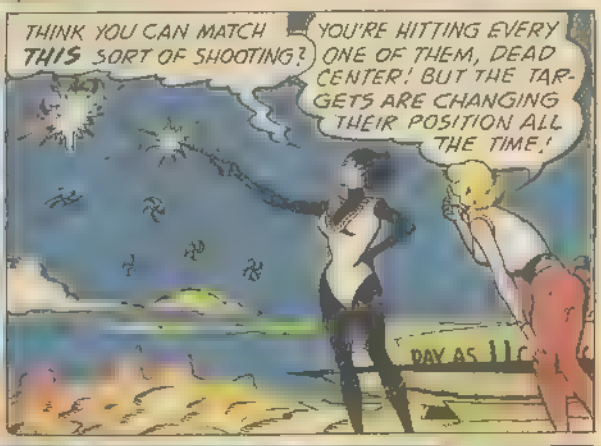

WITH A CRY OF FURY, THE WINGED CREATURE WHEELS AND DARTS FOR THE EARTHMAN...
I'M A GONER UNLESS--WAIT! THAT WATER VAPOR THAT COMES FROM THAT HOLE IN ITS HEAD! I HAVE A FEELING IT'S ITS "NOSE"--AND IT EXHALES WATER VAPOR AS WE HUMANS EXHALE CARBON DIOXIDE! IF SO, I'VE GOT A CHANCE...

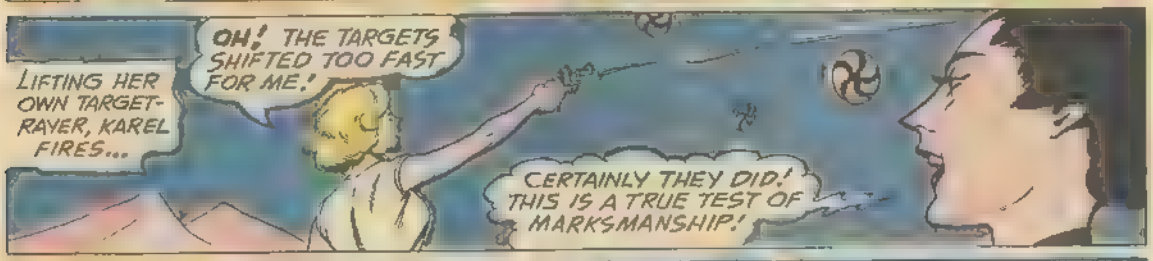

AS HE RUNS, HOMER GLINT FASHIONS A WOODEN PLUG FROM A TREE BRANCH WITH HIS HUNTING KNIFE - SO THAT AS THE WINGED BEAST ATTACKS...
COME ON, THEN--CAPTURE ME IF YOU CAN! I'VE NEVER FACED SUCH TERRIFIC COMPETITION FROM ANY CREATURE BEFORE--BUT I MEAN TO WIN OUT IN OUR BATTLE!

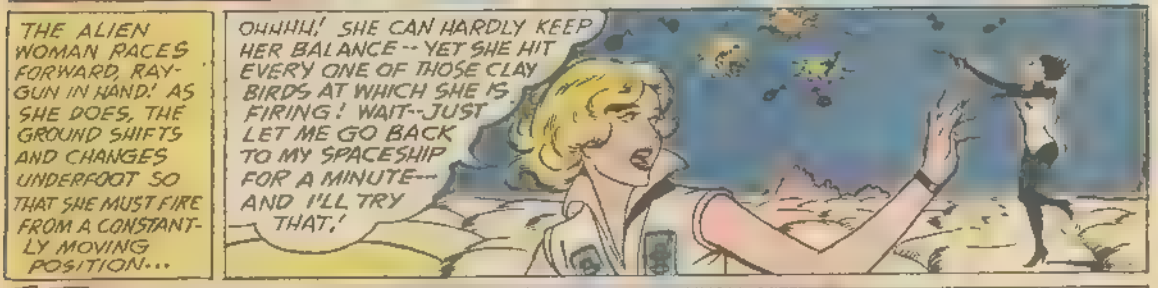

AS TALONS REACH FOR HIM, HE RAMS THE WOODEN PLUG DEEP INTO THE "NOSE" OF THE BEAST--AND HOLDS IT FIRM..
GOT TO--HANG ON! IF I LET THIS THING BEAT ME NOW- I'M REALLY FINISHED!

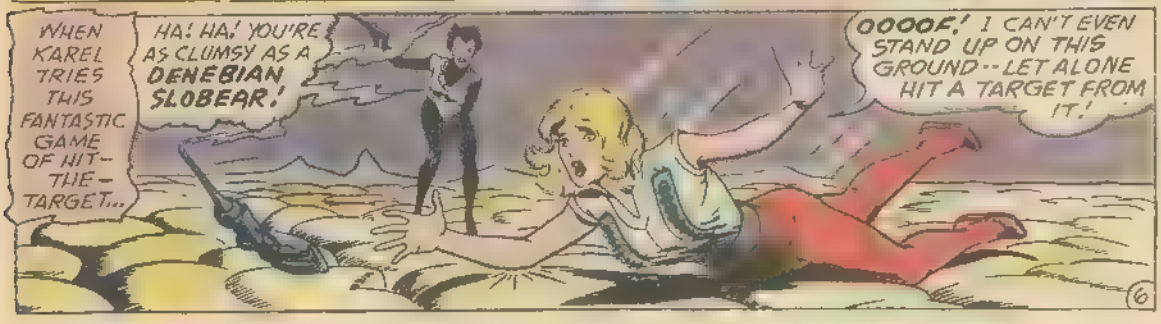
EXPLODING WITH RAGE, THE ALIEN BEAST CONVULSES IN TITANIC LEAPS AND TWISTS, BUT WITH THE SPIRIT OF COMPETITION BURNING BRIGHTLY INSIDE HIM, HOMER KEEPS HIS GRIP...
IT'S--GETTING WEAKER! PRETTY SOON IT'LL KEEL OVER--AS MY PLUG PREVENTS IT FROM BREATHING!

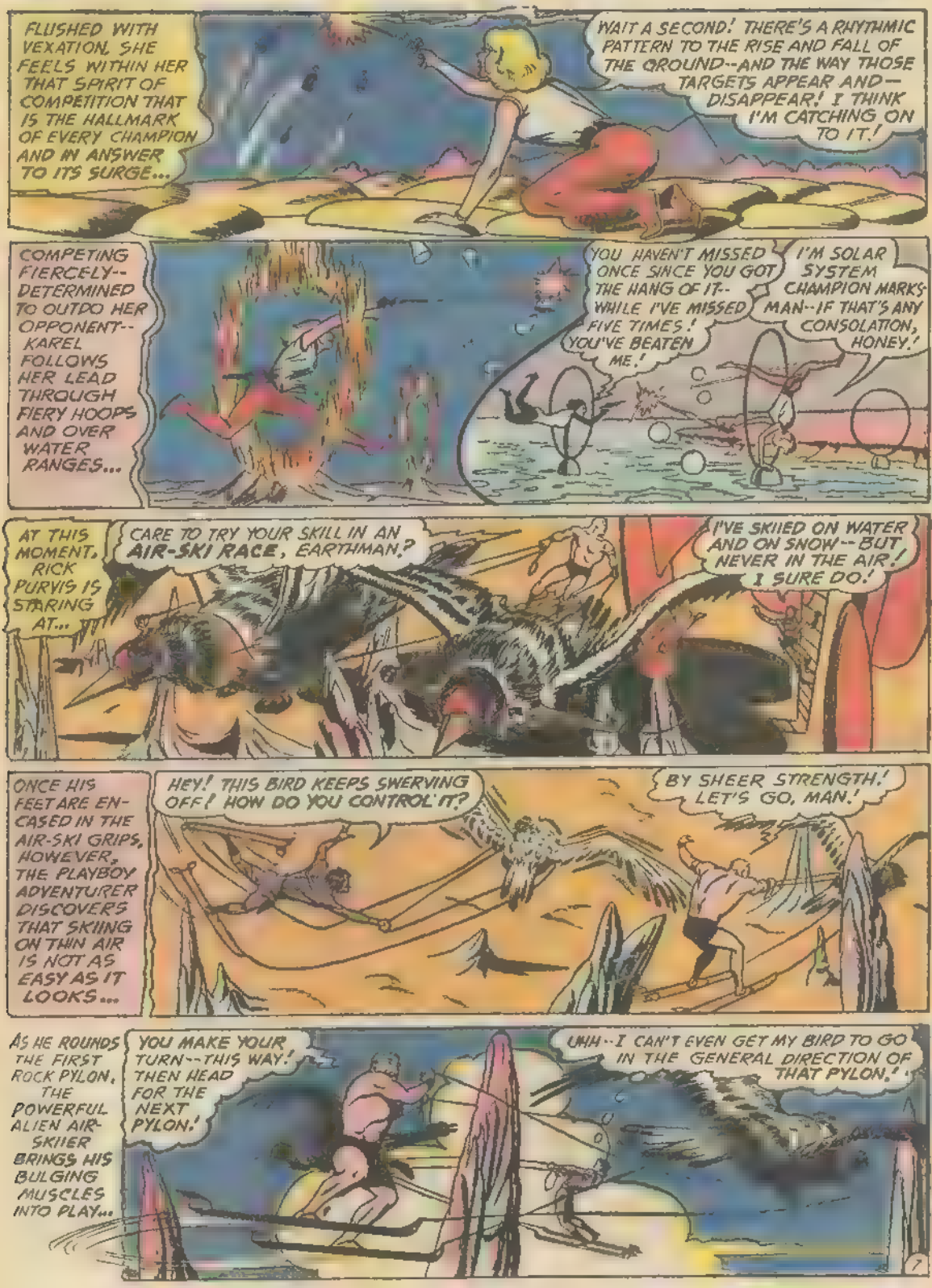

MEANWHILE, GLAMOR GIRL KAREL SORENSEN VANES DOWN IN A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT SECTION OF THE SPACE-ISLAND TO FIND...
WHY, FROM THE LOOKS OF THINGS, I'D SAY I LANDED ON SOME KIND OF TARGET RANGE! I'D SURE LIKE TO TRY IT OUT--
YOU'RE ON, EARTH-GIRL!

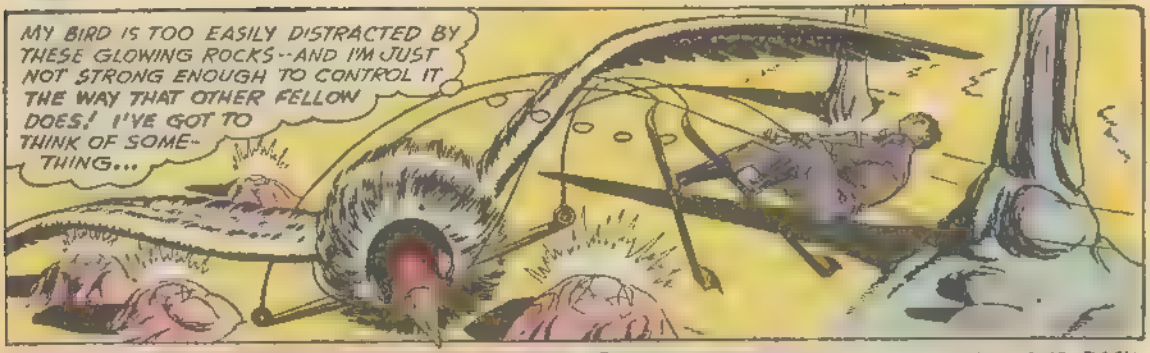

THINK YOU CAN MATCH THIS SORT OF SHOOTING?
YOU'RE HITTING EVERY ONE OF THEM, DEAD CENTER! BUT THE TARGETS ARE CHANGING THEIR POSITION ALL THE TIME!

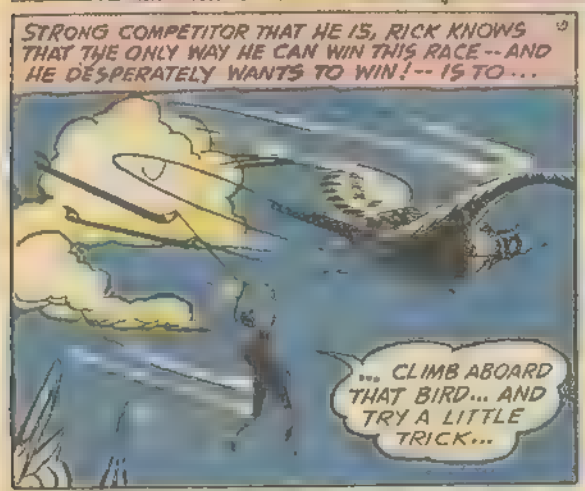

LIFTING HER OWN TARGET-RAYER, KAREL FIRES...
OH! THE TARGETS SHIFTED TOO FAST FOR ME!
CERTAINLY THEY DID! THIS IS A TRUE TEST OF MARKSMANSHIP!

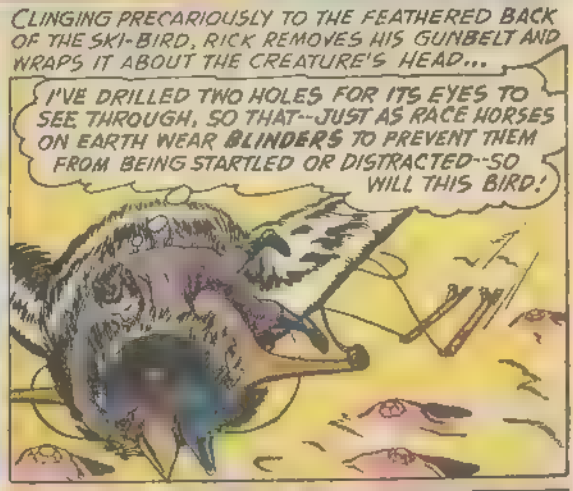

THE ALIEN WOMAN RACES FORWARD, RAY-GUN IN HAND! AS SHE DOES, THE GROUND SHIFTS AND CHANGES UNDERFOOT SO THAT SHE MUST FIRE FROM A CONSTANTLY MOVING POSITION...
OHHHH! SHE CAN HARDLY KEEP HER BALANCE -- YET SHE HIT EVERY ONE OF THOSE CLAY BIRDS AT WHICH SHE IS FIRING! WAIT--JUST LET ME GO BACK TO MY SPACESHIP FOR A MINUTE--AND I'LL TRY THAT!

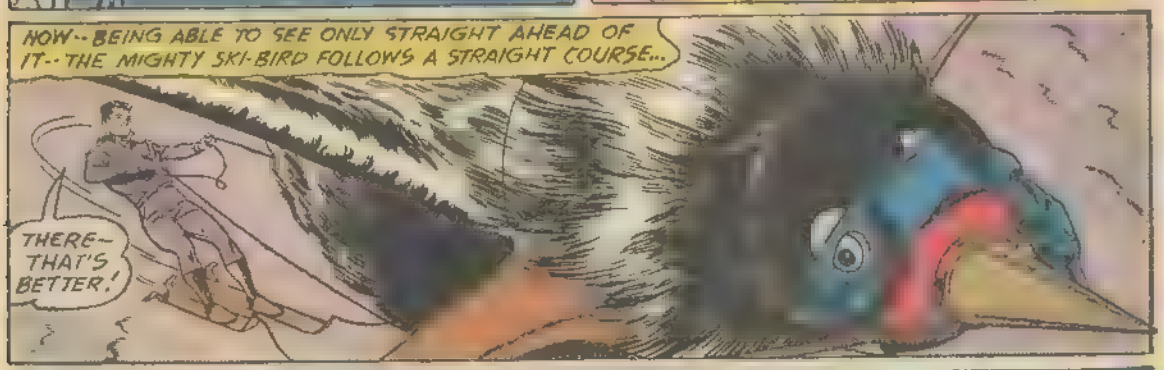

WHEN KAREL TRIES THIS FANTASTIC GAME OF HIT-THE-TARGET...
HA! HA! YOU'RE AS CLUMSY AS A DENEBIAN SLOBEAR!
OOOOF! I CAN'T EVEN STAND UP ON THIS GROUND--LET ALONE HIT A TARGET FROM IT!


FLUSHED WITH VEXATION, SHE FEELS WITHIN HER THAT SPIRIT OF COMPETITION THAT IS THE HALLMARK OF EVERY CHAMPION AND IN ANSWER TO ITS SURGE...
WAIT A SECOND! THERE'S A RHYTHMIC PATTERN TO THE RISE AND FALL OF THE GROUND--AND THE WAY THOSE TARGETS APPEAR AND—DISAPPEAR! I THINK I'M CATCHING ON TO IT!
COMPETING FIERCELY--DETERMINED TO OUTDO HER OPPONENT--KAREL FOLLOWS HER LEAD THROUGH FIERY HOOPS AND OVER WATER RANGES...
YOU HAVEN'T MISSED ONCE SINCE YOU GOT THE HANG OF IT--WHILE I'VE MISSED FIVE TIMES! YOU'VE BEATEN ME!
I'M SOLAR SYSTEM CHAMPION MARK'S MAN--IF THAT'S ANY CONSOLATION, HONEY!
AT THIS MOMENT, RICK PURVIS IS STARING AT...
CARE TO TRY YOUR SKILL IN AN AIR-SKI RACE, EARTHMAN?
I'VE SKIIED ON WATER AND ON SNOW--BUT NEVER IN THE AIR! I SURE DO!
ONCE HIS FEET ARE ENCASED IN THE AIR-SKI GRIPS, HOWEVER, THE PLAYBOY ADVENTURER DISCOVERS THAT SKIING ON THIN AIR IS NOT AS EASY AS IT LOOKS...
HEY! THIS BIRD KEEPS SWERVING OFF! HOW DO YOU CONTROL IT?
BY SHEER STRENGTH! LET'S GO, MAN!
AS HE ROUNDS THE FIRST ROCK PYLON, THE POWERFUL ALIEN AIR-SKIIER BRINGS HIS BULGING MUSCLES INTO PLAY...
YOU MAKE YOUR TURN--THIS WAY! THEN HEAD FOR THE NEXT PYLON!
UHH--I CAN'T EVEN GET MY BIRD TO GO IN THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF THAT PYLON!

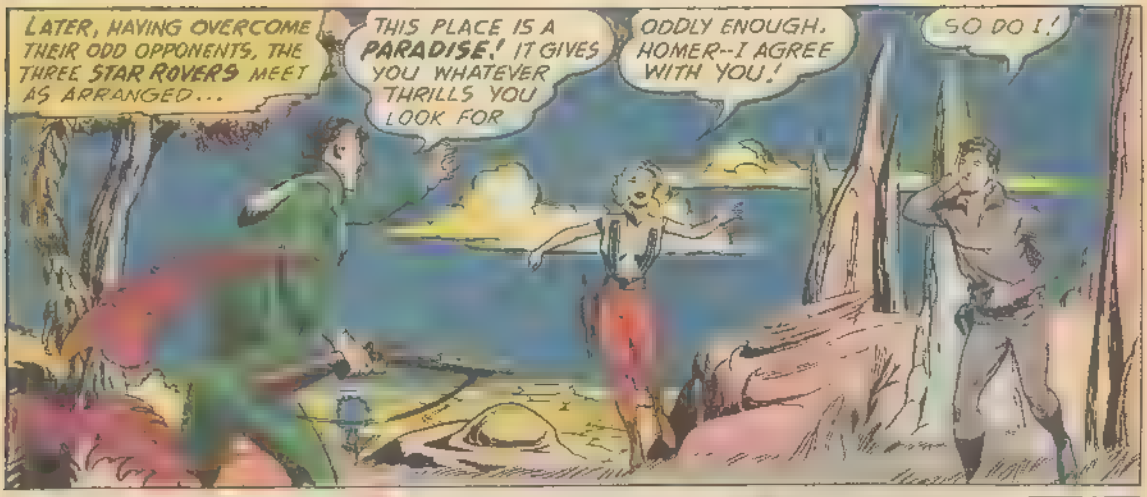

MY BIRD IS TOO EASILY DISTRACTED BY THESE GLOWING ROCKS--AND I'M JUST NOT STRONG ENOUGH TO CONTROL IT THE WAY THAT OTHER FELLOW DOES! I'VE GOT TO THINK OF SOME-THING...

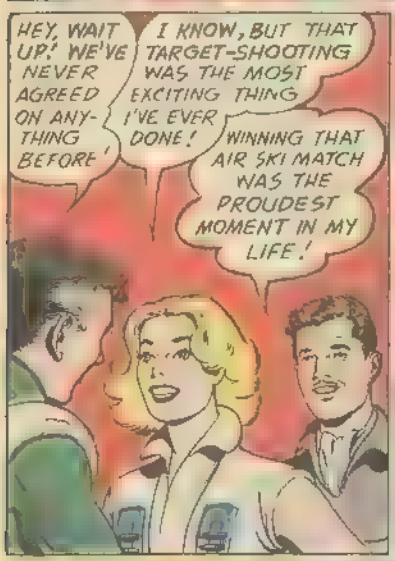

STRONG COMPETITOR THAT HE IS, RICK KNOWS THAT THE ONLY WAY HE CAN WIN THIS RACE--AND HE DESPERATELY WANTS TO WIN!--IS TO...
... CLIMB ABOARD THAT BIRD... AND TRY A LITTLE TRICK...

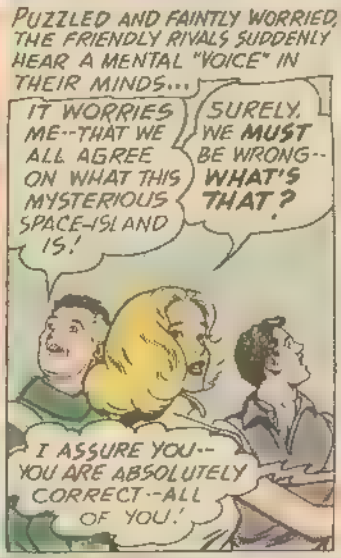

CLINGING PRECARIOUSLY TO THE FEATHERED BACK OF THE SKI-BIRD, RICK REMOVES HIS GUNBELT AND WRAPS IT ABOUT THE CREATURE'S HEAD...
I'VE DRILLED TWO HOLES FOR ITS EYES TO SEE THROUGH, SO THAT--JUST AS RACE HORSES ON EARTH WEAR BLINDERS TO PREVENT THEM FROM BEING STARTLED OR DISTRACTED--SO WILL THIS BIRD!


NOW--BEING ABLE TO SEE ONLY STRAIGHT AHEAD OF IT--THE MIGHTY SKI-BIRD FOLLOWS A STRAIGHT COURSE...
THERE--THAT'S BETTER!

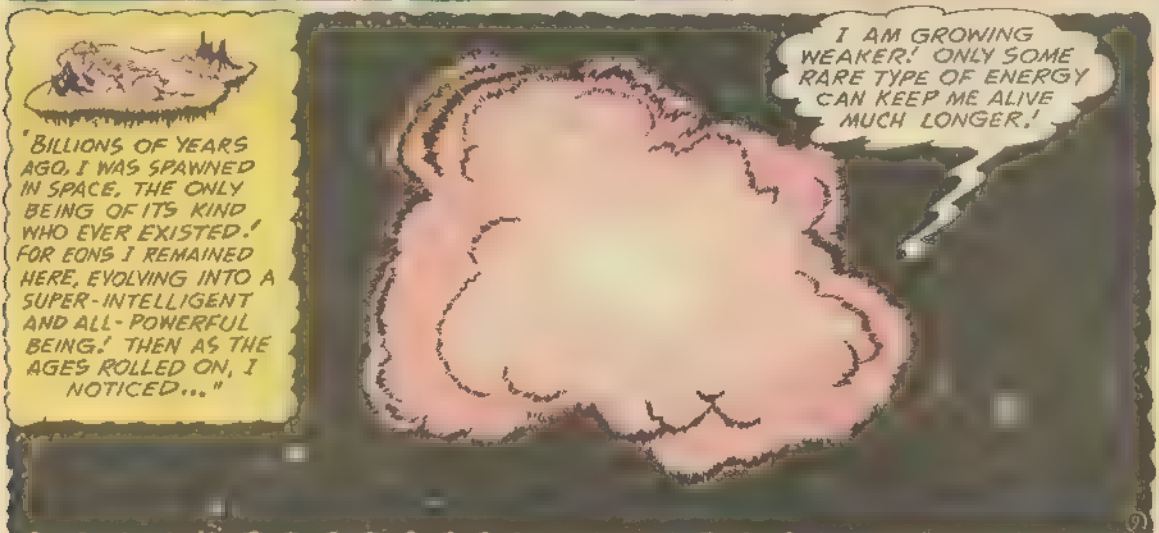
SOON THE PLAYBOY-ADVENTURER CATCHES HIS OPPONENT AND ON THE FINAL HOME STRETCH, PASSES HIM WITH ROOM TO SPARE...
NOBODY EVER BEAT ME BEFORE AT AIR-SKIING!
THERE'S ALWAYS A FIRST TIME, CHUM!

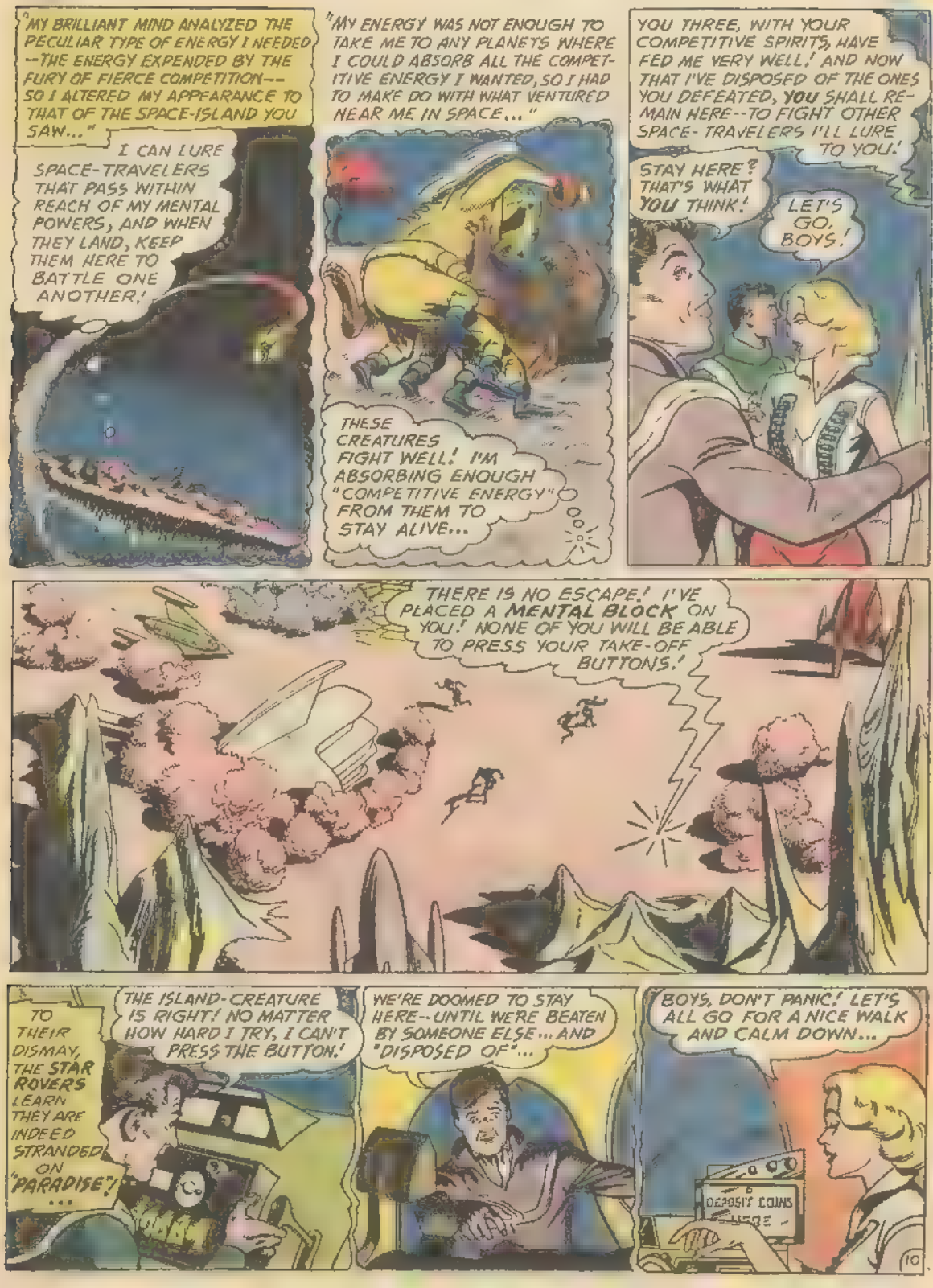

LATER, HAVING OVERCOME THEIR ODD OPPONENTS, THE THREE STAR ROVERS MEET AS ARRANGED...
THIS PLACE IS A PARADISE! IT GIVES YOU WHATEVER THRILLS YOU LOOK FOR
ODDLY ENOUGH, HOMER--I AGREE WITH YOU!
SO DO I!


HEY, WAIT UP! WE'VE NEVER AGREED ON ANYTHING BEFORE!
I KNOW, BUT THAT TARGET-SHOOTING WAS THE MOST EXCITING THING I'VE EVER DONE!
WINNING THAT AIR SKI MATCH WAS THE PROUDEST MOMENT IN MY LIFE!


PUZZLED AND FAINTLY WORRIED, THE FRIENDLY RIVALS SUDDENLY HEAR A MENTAL "VOICE" IN THEIR MINDS...
IT WORRIES ME--THAT WE ALL AGREE ON WHAT THIS MYSTERIOUS SPACE-ISLAND IS!
SURELY, WE MUST BE WRONG--WHAT'S THAT?
I ASSURE YOU--YOU ARE ABSOLUTELY CORRECT--ALL OF YOU!

I AM XANATHAR, --THE SPACE-ISLAND ITSELF, IF YOU WILL-- BUT MORE ESPECIALLY I AM A CREATURE OF TREMENDOUS MENTAL ENERGY!


"BILLIONS OF YEARS AGO, I WAS SPAWNED IN SPACE. THE ONLY BEING OF ITS KIND WHO EVER EXISTED! FOR EONS I REMAINED HERE, EVOLVING INTO A SUPER-INTELLIGENT AND ALL-POWERFUL BEING! THEN AS THE AGES ROLLED ON, I NOTICED..."
I AM GROWING WEAKER! ONLY SOME RARE TYPE OF ENERGY CAN KEEP ME ALIVE MUCH LONGER!

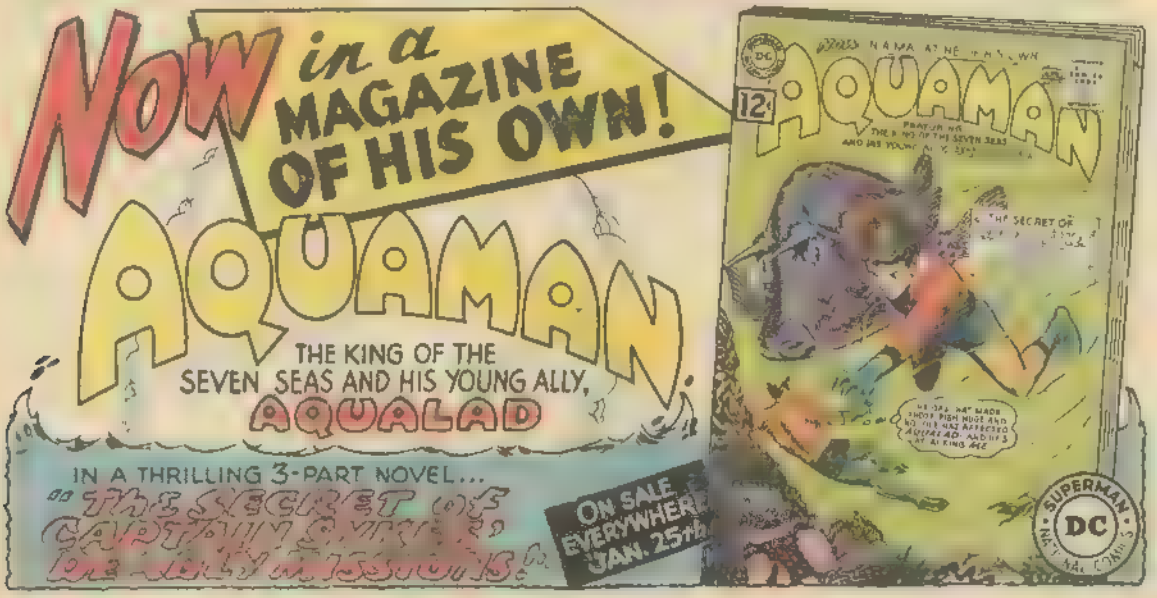

"MY BRILLIANT MIND ANALYZED THE PECULIAR TYPE OF ENERGY I NEEDED --THE ENERGY EXPENDED BY THE FURY OF FIERCE COMPETITION-- SO I ALTERED MY APPEARANCE TO THAT OF THE SPACE-ISLAND YOU SAW..."
I CAN LURE SPACE-TRAVELERS THAT PASS WITHIN REACH OF MY MENTAL POWERS, AND WHEN THEY LAND, KEEP THEM HERE TO BATTLE ONE ANOTHER!
"MY ENERGY WAS NOT ENOUGH TO TAKE ME TO ANY PLANETS WHERE I COULD ABSORB ALL THE COMPETITIVE ENERGY I WANTED, SO I HAD TO MAKE DO WITH WHAT VENTURED NEAR ME IN SPACE..."
THESE CREATURES FIGHT WELL! I'M ABSORBING ENOUGH "COMPETITIVE ENERGY" FROM THEM TO STAY ALIVE...
YOU THREE, WITH YOUR COMPETITIVE SPIRITS, HAVE FED ME VERY WELL! AND NOW THAT I'VE DISPOSED OF THE ONES YOU DEFEATED, YOU SHALL REMAIN HERE--TO FIGHT OTHER SPACE-TRAVELERS I'LL LURE TO YOU!
STAY HERE? THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!
LET'S GO, BOYS!
THERE IS NO ESCAPE! I'VE PLACED A MENTAL BLOCK ON YOU! NONE OF YOU WILL BE ABLE TO PRESS YOUR TAKE-OFF BUTTONS!
TO THEIR DISMAY, THE STAR ROVERS LEARN THEY ARE INDEED STRANDED ON "PARADISE"! ...
THE ISLAND-CREATURE IS RIGHT! NO MATTER HOW HARD I TRY, I CAN'T PRESS THE BUTTON!
WE'RE DOOMED TO STAY HERE--UNTIL WE'RE BEATEN BY SOMEONE ELSE... AND "DISPOSED OF"...
BOYS, DON'T PANIC! LET'S ALL GO FOR A NICE WALK AND CALM DOWN...
DEPOSIT COINS HERE
10

MOMENTS LATER . .
WE'RE STRANDED HERE -- AND YOU WANT TO GO FOR A WALK!
JUST LIKE A WOMAN!
IN A LITTLE WHILE I WANT YOU TO COME BACK TO MY SPACESHIP WITH ME - WHEREUPON I'LL HAVE A PLEASANT SURPRISE FOR YOU!

AND THEN, ABOUT AN HOUR LATER WHEN THE TRIO HAS BOARDED KAREL'S SHIP...
KAREL! WE'RE BLASTING OFF -- RETURNING TO EARTH! HOW DID YOU DO IT?
I DIDN'T - THE PAY-AS-YOU-GO SPACESHIP PEOPLE DID! UNLESS YOU KEEP FEEDING COINS TO THESE RENTED SHIPS, AUTOMATIC CONTROLS TAKE THEM BACK WHERE THEY CAME FROM! THAT'S WHY I LEFT THE TARGET-RANGE TO GO BACK TO MY SPACESHIP -- TO PUT IN ANOTHER COIN!

WITHOUT SOME DEVICE LIKE THAT, PEOPLE COULD STEAL THEIR SPACE-SHIPS AND THE RENTAL COMPANY WOULDN'T KNOW WHERE IN SPACE TO LOOK FOR THEM! I DELIBERATELY "NEGLECTED" TO PUT ANOTHER COIN IN WHEN MY RENTAL TIME RAN OUT -- AND HERE WE ARE!

HOMEWARD BOUND. .
WE'LL WARN THE AUTHORITIES ABOUT THE ISLAND -- AND THEY'LL SURROUND IT WITH A DISTURBANCE TO KEEP SPACE-TRAVELERS AWAY FROM IT!
WITHOUT COMPETITIVE ENERGY TO GIVE IT LIFE -- THE SPACE-ISLAND WILL SOON CEASE TO EXIST AND FADE AWAY, AND FUTURE PEOPLE WILL WONDER -- "WHERE IS THE PARADISE OF SPACE?"
THE End


NOW in a MAGAZINE OF HIS OWN!
AQUAMAN
THE KING OF THE SEVEN SEAS AND HIS YOUNG ALLY, AQUALAD
IN A THRILLING 3-PART NOVEL...
THE SECRET OF CAPTAIN SWIFT'S DE-ATH-RAY!
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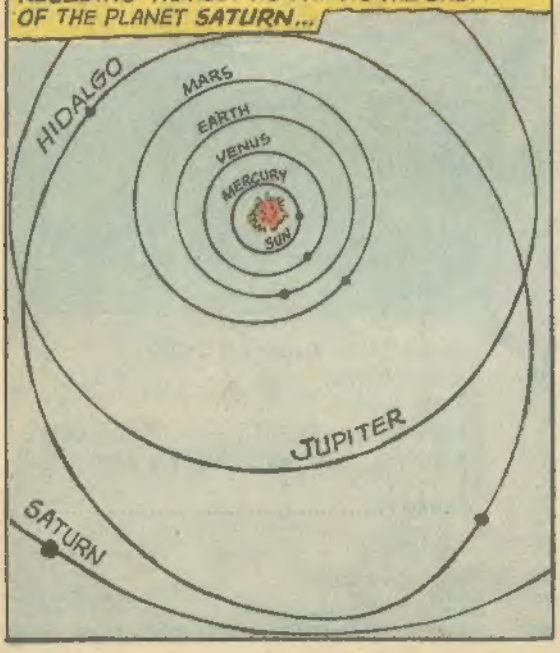
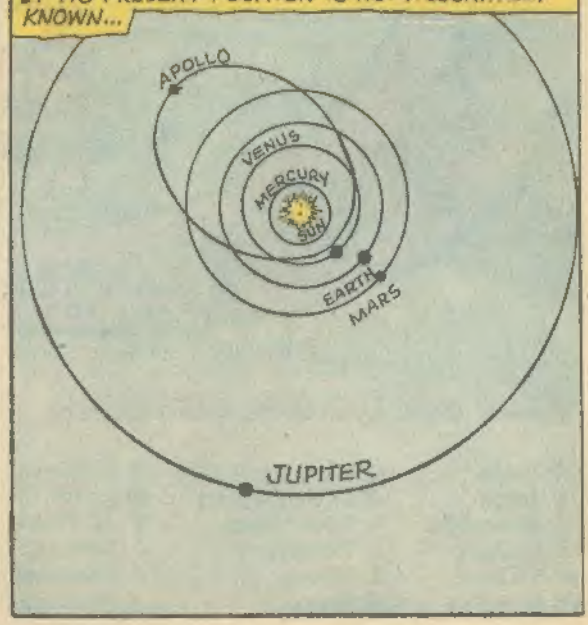
DISCOVERED IN 1920, **HIDALGO** HAS THE LARGEST KNOWN ORBIT OF ANY ASTEROID, RECEDING ALMOST AS FAR AS THE ORBIT OF THE PLANET **SATURN**...



IN 1932, THE ASTEROID **APOLLO** APPROACHED WITHIN 7 MILLION MILES OF EARTH; WHEN IT RECEDED, ITS TRACK WAS LOST AND CONSEQUENTLY ITS PRESENT POSITION IS NOT ACCURATELY KNOWN...



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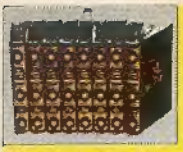
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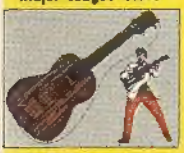
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